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MOSCOW REPORTS SEMIPALATINSK NUCLEAR TEST

LD260902 Moscow World Service in English 0800 GMT 26 Feb 87

[Text] The Soviet Union carried out an underground nuclear explosion with a yield of up to 20 kilotons at the testing site in the region of Semipalatinsk at 0800 Moscow time this morning. The aim of the explosion was to check the results of research in the physics of nuclear explosions.

It's a known fact that the Soviet Union advocates a total ban on nuclear testing. To promote this it observed a unilateral moratorium for more than a year and a half, yet the United States refused to join it. It conducted 26 explosions during the period. Last December the Soviet Government said that in view of the negative stand of the United States the moratorium would remain effective until the first American nuclear explosion in 1987. The United States has already carried out two explosions since the beginning of the year. The Soviet Union, as it announced earlier, is ready to resume the moratorium at any time if the United States agrees to join it.

Defense Spokesman Comments

LD260916 Moscow TASS in English 0904 GMT 26 Feb 87

[Text] Moscow February 26 TASS -- The Soviet Union today had to explode its first nuclear device in 18 months, a spokesman for the USSR Defense Ministry said here.

Speaking at a briefing for Soviet and foreign correspondents, Major-General Geliy Batenin added that the step could not have come as a surprise to anybody because the Soviet Union had declared openly way back on December 18 last year that it would not be able to observe unilateral restraint in that matter for ever.

"It is most regrettable that the incumbent U.S. Administration, on which it depended whether our moratorium would be extended and become bilateral, has found it possible to press on with its nuclear testing program and already carried out two nuclear blasts this year in utter disregard for the will of the international public," he said.

MINISTRY SPOKESMAN ON U.S. TREATY 'VIOLATIONS'

LD261105 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0955 GMT 26 Feb 87

[Text] Moscow, 26 Feb (TASS) -- A spokesman of the USSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs made the following statement today:

A few days ago, the U.S. Arms Control and Disarmament Agency published a report on U.S. adherence to the accords in the field of arms limitations. It is an attempt by the U.S. side to justify violations of the existing accords on limiting and reducing armaments. It was undertaken with the aim of covering up its unseemly actions which lead to disintegration of this field's legal and treaty system and to unleashing an unrestrained arms race.

These long-planned and systematically implemented steps to destroy the SALT II treaty, which established military parity between the USSR and the United States and restricted the strategic offensive arms race, were an open manifestation of the U.S. administration's policy. President Reagan's administration refused to ratify this treaty and began an unprecedented strategic weapons buildup program. The United States embarked on creating new generations of intercontinental ballistic missiles, strategic bombers, and nuclear-powered missile submarines. The SALT II treaty was a serious barrier to implementing this program, so the United States decided to abandon it as an obstruction. At the end of last year it stopped honoring its obligations under this agreement.

At present, the USSR Foreign Ministry spokesman went on, the United States is placing a mine under the ABM Treaty, regarding it a an obstacle to the SDI program that envisages the creation [sozdaniye] of a wide-scale antimissile defense system with space-based elements. As it speeds up work linked to SDI it conflicts more and more with the stipulations of this treaty. The U.S. side has started seeking pseudo-legal justifications for circumventing the treaty. It thought up the so-called "broad" interpretation, which, it is calculated in Washington, would permit continuing work on the SDI program, including work in space, while at the same time formally being a party to the treaty. The U.S. "broad" interpretation, if employed, would remove all restrictions on the creation [sozdaniye] of space antimissile defense, emasculate the treaty's essence, and wreck the process of nuclear arms limitation.

The plans for creating new types of nuclear weapons and devices for ABM purposes within the SDI program underlie Washington's negative stand on ending nuclear tests. The United States prefers to remain silent on its pledges under the 1963 treaty on a nuclear weapons test ban in the atmosphere, in space, and underwater, and the 1969 nuclear weapons nonproliferation treaty, which seek the universal and total end of nuclear tests. The United States openly states its intention to continue nuclear testing as long as nuclear weapons exist. The nuclear component of the SDI program also threatens to undermine the 1967 treaty on the principles of activities of states in space research, which bans the placement of objects carrying nuclear weapons in orbit or their siting in space by any means.

The facts show that the United States is working toward opening the floodgates for an unbridled arms race and breaking agreements which serve as a basis for strategic stability, the USSR Foreign Minstry spokesman stressed. The USSR, as a consistent advocate of strict observance of pledges undertaken for arms limitation and reduction, resolutely condemns this course of the U.S. Administration.

GENEVA DELEGATION CHIDES U.S. NEGOTIATING STANCE

LD252059 Moscow TASS in English 2047 GMT 25 Feb 87

["Announcement by the Soviet Delegtion at the Geneva Talks" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Geneva February 25 TASS -- In connection with the press conference on the issue of strengthening the regime of the ABM Treaty, which was held at the USSR Mission in Geneva on February 24, the U.S. delegation at the talks on nuclear and space weapons issued a "refutation". An unfounded accusation is made in it that in the course of the above-said press conference public was incorrectly informed about the U.S. stand at the talks on the space weapons issue.

The contents of the statement for the press made by the U.S. delegation shows that it is by no means Soviet representatives, but the American side that has embarked on the path of misleading public opinion.

It is a fact that it is precisely at the current round of the talks that the U.S. Administration has for the first time officially tabled at Geneva the text of the proposal (?aimed to) legalized the so-called "broad interpretation" of the ABM Treaty. It can be "denied" by the single method -- by radically revising the above-said U.S. proposal. But, to all appearances, the U.S. side is not yet ready to make such a sensible step. For the known reason they in Washington are at present concerned not with taking measures directed at strengthening the regime of the ABM Treaty, but with finding an excuse for the planned large-scale testing of ABM space-based weapons being developed within the framework of the SDI program.

That is why they needed to invent in the 13th year of the ABM Treaty being in effect "a broad interpretation" designed to distort by means of pseudo-legal casuistry the essence of the limitation imposed by the treaty and thus open the way for U.S. strike weapons into outer space.

The references made in the statement of the U.S. delegation to the effect that the U.S. Administration has already since the autumn of 1985 been declaring its commitment to a "broad interpretation" of the ABM Treaty is proof of the unconstructive attitude of the United States to the key problem of the talks -- the space weapons.

The attempts of the U.S. side at legalizing the "broad interpretation" of the ABM Treaty under the conditions when even many Washington's allies in NATO and prominent figures in the USA itself are expressing concern over the dangerous consequences of torpedoing the regime set by that important document, constitute a serious obstacle for advancement at the talks, prevent a consolidation of the accord reached at Reykjavik on non-use for a term of ten years of the right to abandon the ABM Treaty and a strict observance of all its provisions.

MOSCOW VIEWS CRUISE MISSILE TEST OVER CANADA

LD260020 Moscow World Service in English 1410 GMT 25 Feb 87

[Text] The United States has carried out another test of a long-range cruise missile over Canadian territory. The missile is capable of carrying a nuclear warhead. Aleksandr Druzhinin has these details:

Even a laymen knows that cruise missiles are first strike weapons. As the press reports, the testing in Canada was carried out in the conditions simulating the attack on the Soviet Union. Washington officials seem to have nothing against discussing their readiness to reduce strategic weapons but they limit this readiness to intercontinental ballistic missiles alone. As for long-range cruise missiles, they prefer not to count them, to leave the opportunity for building up such weapons open. And this, in fact, amounts to the desire to bypass the existing restraints on strategic weapons.

The United States has already broken the ceiling set for the heavy B-52 bombers capable of carrying cruise missiles. By so doing, it has breached the SALT II treaty. It plans to deploy long-range cruise missiles tipped with nuclear warheads (?at) its submarines and surface vessels.

Even if intercontinental ballistic missiles are reduced, the United States will still have thousands of cruise missiles unspecified in agreements. In the opinion of Washington strategists, this should ensure military superiority to the United States. The Washington Administration keeps striving for an illusory aim, to change the strategic balance in its favor. This explains why the United States is stepping up the testing of cruise missiles and is seeking to enlarge their arsenals in every possible way.

REAGAN TO DECIDE ON ABM TREATY BY SUMMER

LD260019 Moscow World Service in English 1500 GMT 25 Feb 87

[Text] The Reagan administration can make a decision on a broad interpretation of the Antiballistic Missile Treaty at the end of spring or the beginning of summer this year. This has been disclosed to newsmen by the chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee, Sam Nunn, after meeting presidential advisers on arms control. The meeting was prompted by growing concern in Congress that the administration is taking steps to torpedo the ABM Treaty in order to clear the way to the deployment of attack space arms. According to the speaker of the House of Representatives, Jim Wright, this would be a serious mistake.

WEINBERGER REQUESTS ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR SDI

LD181815 Moscow TASS in English 1647 GMT 18 Feb 87

[Text] Washington February 18 TASS -- The Pentagon is requesting Congress to allocate almost 2,800 million dollars additionally to it in the 1987 fiscal year. Five hundred million dollars out of the sum will be used to speed up work under the 'Star Wars' programme.

Speaking in the Senate Committee on the Armed Services on Tuesday U.S. Secretary of Defence Caspar Weinberger stated that the additional 500 million dollars for the needs of strategic defence would enable the United States to make headway in the field of developing heavy delivery vehicles.

He insisted on the so-called broad interpretation of the 1972 Soviet-U.S. ABM Treaty, the interpretation which would allow the development and deployment of the newest space weapon systems.

He said the United States had already virtually decided on moving on such an interpretation of the treaty.

The U.S. secretary of defence did not give a clear answer to a question asked by Senator Albert Gore (Democrat, Tennessee), why does the U.S. President think that he has a right unilaterally to change the treaty which was already ratified by the Senate on the basis of "narrow interpretation".

PRUSOV ON MEASURES TO ENHANCE CEMA COORDINATION

AU111824 Sofia BTA in English 1657 GMT 11 Feb 87

["CMEA: New Forms of Integration Developed" -- BTA Headline]

[Text] Sofia, February 11 (BTA) -- "One of the most promising ways to intensify the cooperation within the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance is industrial cooperation and specialization and, in certain cases, the establishment of joint companies and international corporations," states Mr Vsevolod Prusov, chief of a department at the Soviet Planning Committee, in an interview for the IKONOMICHESKI ZHIVOT weekly. The Soviet economist says that the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance will undertake certain measures in order to improve the co-ordination of the socialist countries' plans. In the future the co-ordination will be conducted at three levels: the state planning bodies, the bodies managing the branches of the national economies and at the level of the economic organizations.

"It is important to introduce such a mechanism that would promote comprehensive cooperation between the enterprises starting from research and development work and going as far as full-scale production." According to Mr Prusov, the Soviet Government has lately eliminated all obstacles to the Soviet companies' participation in joint ventures with CMEA partners. A very important step in the furthering of the direct cooperation between the enterprises of the socialist countries will be the improvement of the price and financial levers and the improvement of the efficiency of the transferable ruble.

Commenting on several, recently established, joint Bulgaro-Soviet scientific-production enterprises Mr Prusov points out that some of the latest decrees of the CC of the CPSU and of the Soviet Government promote this activity and the central planning bodies in the two countries are obliged to cooperate in all possible ways for the development of these progressive forms of cooperation. At the same time the Soviet economist stresses that the establishing of joint enterprises must not be taken as an aim in itself. They are necessary only at a time when their assistance will solve certain tasks. The experience of the Bulgaro-Soviet cooperation has shown that in a number of cases the cooperation between concrete enterprises in the course of the years has been developed to such an extent that it is easy to turn to more efficient forms of integration. The ideas for establishing of Bulgaro-Soviet enterprises during the previous year, points out Mr. Prusov, have come out, at first, from the enterprises themselves.

The Soviet economist points out that the common socialist property is one of the most complicated questions of the future cooperation in the CMEA. He thinks that practice would show the solution and it is too early to speak about normative regulation. But there is a step forward in this respect and that is the agreement for establishing of joint enterprises, associations and organizations, which has been signed between the Bulgarian and the Soviet Government.

Such a base may radically overcome the economic reticence of national production processes, may achieve most close uniting of the efforts of the socialist countries in the priority trends of science and technology, points out Mr. Vsevolod Prusov.

We don't have ready made formulas, says he at the end of the interview for IKONOMICHESKI ZHIVOT. But it is clear that in any case the new, non-standard decisions of the complicated questions must not be in contrast to the principles of mutual interest.

IISS HEAD'S ARTICLE, ADM AMELKO REPLY FEATURED

PM250939 [Editorial Report] Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 20 February 1987 First Edition carries on page 4 under the rubric "From Different Positions" the following article by Robert O'Neill, director of the London-based International Institute for Strategic Studies (IISS), under the headline "The Challenge to U.S. Strategy in the Pacific," reprinted from the INTERNATIONAL HERALD TRIBUNE's 6 February edition:

"The growth of the Soviet Pacific fleet and of its basing system presents major challenges and problems to the shapers of U.S. allied naval policies. The Western allies, an array of nations separated by two oceans, cannot afford to lose control of the sea in a conflict, yet improvements in Soviet naval and air power raise questions about the West's ability to control sea lanes and about the credibility of its deterrent posture both in the Atlantic and in the Pacific.

"Several remedies have been sought. The Reagan administration's naval construction program is the most direct response, but costs are outrunning resources at a time of increased fiscal stringency. The Soviets may prove better suited for the conduct of a long-term naval race, not because of greater economic strength but through a greater ability to maintain priorities for the sake of national security in times of austerity.

"Of course, sheer numbers of U.S. ships will not suffice to meet the Soviet challenge: They must be used in accordance with sound strategic concepts. The new U.S. naval strategy of forward deployment in time of crisis is intended to prevent the Soviet fleet from breaking out and attacking in mid-ocean. Weapons like the dual-capable (nuclear or conventional) Tomahawk cruise missile can enhance survivability, enabling ships to stay farther from opposing forces. They also raise the risk to Soviet forces in any attempted push outward.

"But these remedies raise new problems for the United States and its allies. Dual-capable systems, particularly when combined with the new naval strategy, can reduce political stability and complicate the control of escalation. At a time when there is widespread debate on first use of nuclear weapons in the European theater, some thought also has to be given to these issues in the Pacific to ensure a consistent policy.

"The nuclear firebreak established at heavy cost in Europe might be worthless if nuclear conflict were to break out in the Pacific at virtually the outset of any hostilities. In the Pacific, the situation regarding first use of nuclear weapons is in some ways the reverse of that in Europe. It is not the West but the Soviet Union that has the more powerful incentive to employ them first. The major units of the U.S. fleet offer a tempting target, and the Soviet Navy might stand to gain from first use in an all-out war at sea.

"Indeed, if the U.S. Navy surges forward, the Soviets may see no other option. This is not to say that the Soviets will ignore the possibility that the tactical use of nuclear weapons at sea might lead to strategic use against their territory.

"But, as we know, the danger of escalation has not of itself led NATO to discard the first-use option. Rather, it has turned the minds of leaders on both sides toward arms control and confidence-building measures in the European theater. It is time that more attention was given to consideration of such measures for the Pacific, particularly in the northwest corner, the Sea of Okhotsk and the Sea of Japan, where the stakes are so high.

"Another of the West's means of maintaining its strength in the Pacific is its basing system. As the Soviet naval challenge there increases, so does the importance of forward bases, which enable the West to preserve a favorable balance of naval power in the Western Pacific with due economy of resources. However, to retain access to these bases, the United States must have the cooperation of leaders in Japan and the Philippines.

"Soviet policy toward Japan in the past decade has made it easier for Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone to bring his country into closer alignment with America and has reduced domestic oppostion to the presence of U.S. bases. Nonetheless, the deployment of cruise missiles and the adoption of the new maritime strategy by the Reagan administration have reinvigorated domestic criticism in Japan and placed the government somewhat on the defensive. Care and sensitivity will be called for by the United States if Japanese opposition to the bases is to be kept limited.

"In the Philippines, the debate over bases is colored chiefly by nationalism and changing national aspirations, as Mrs Aquino's government struggles to maintain and extend domestic political support. The United States has to be particularly careful not to provide new ammunition to those who call for the expulsion of U.S. forces. New Zealand's suspension from ANZUS has not weakened the antinuclear cause in other Pacific states. This is demonstrated by the recent ratification of the Rarotonga Treaty establishing the South Pacific Nuclear-Free Zone, the protocols of which the United States has declined to sign.

"It would be a sad irony if the American responses to the Soviet naval challenge in the Pacific were to undermine the political consensus so vital to preserving access to the key U.S. bases in Japan and the Philippines and to maintaining essential cooperation with its other partners."

PRAVDA accompanies the reprint of O'Neill's article with the following commentary by Admiral Nikolay Amelko, military inspector and advisor to the USSR Ministry of Defense, entitled "Who Threatens Whom:"

"When analyzing strategic problems, the majority of Western military experts, regardless of whether they wear a uniform or civilian dress, profess a principle that is very strange even from the viewpoint of logic. They try to justify the obvious buildup of the imperialist states' military might, confirmed by numerous facts, and their adoption of overtly aggressive strategic concepts with quite vague references to the 'Soviet military threat.' This, as can be seen, is also the approach of the director of the London Institute for Strategic Studies.

"All his arguments are based on the claim that the Soviet Union is building up its naval might in the Pacific on a threatening scale. Evidently somewhat more experienced than some of his colleagues, O'Neill does not descend to manipulating figures to substantiate such an argument. He points out that this question is obvious. In reality, no buildup of our fleet is taking place in the Pacific, nor is there a threat to anyone. Yes, the Soviet Pacific Fleet, like our other fleets, is being equipped with modern combat hardware; it is acquiring sophisticated new ships to replace those that have completed their service. However, in the sphere of naval armaments, the USSR is not doing anything beyond what is dictated by the minimum requirements of our defense and the protection of our friends and allies against a maritime attack.

"The defensive nature of the Soviet Navy is confirmed by the fact that it incorporates almost no forces for land-based operations. [paragraph continues]

At the same time, the U.S. Navy incorporates forces for making strikes against onshore targets and capturing territories: aircraft carriers with nuclear weapons carriers, battleships and submarines with Tomahawk cruise missiles, and amphibious forces capable of simultaneously landing up to one marine division of more than 40,000 men.

"But let us return to O'Neill's article. Setting up a 'strategic' fog, he argues at length to the effect that the USSR might find some 'incentive' for the first use of nuclear weapons in the Pacific. One can only be amazed at why such a specialist ignores the fundamental fact that Soviet military doctrine resolutely rejects the concept of attack and of preemptive strikes. It is based on the principles of defensive actions. It is even more strange that he did not consider it necessary even to mention that the USSR unilaterally has adopted a pledge not to be the first to use nuclear weapons and has even proposed their total elimination by the year 2000.

"What, then, was the purpose of these arguments, which we regard as rather unscrupulous? To justify the new naval strategy adopted by the Pentagon. O'Neill is compelled to state: Its nature is such that it frightens even U.S. allies. In fact, the basic idea of this strategy consists in so-called 'global and immediate forward deployment,' whose purpose is neither more nor less than to 'lock up' the Soviet fleet. Here Admiral J. Watkins, one of the authors of this strategy, points out that U.S. naval formations 'will destroy Soviet forces in forward positions and, if necessary, break through to Soviet territorial waters.' But the chief aim, Watkins frankly revealed, 'is to shoot the archer before he fires his arrows.' Here is not a fabricated but a real gamble on the first strike for you!

"It is significant that the Pentagon has turned Pacific expanses into a test range for rehearsing this sinister concept. Every year the U.S. Navy involves its allies in rehearsing both 'global deployment' and a blockade of Far Eastern straits (recall the task of 'locking up' the Soviet fleet). Strikes against Soviet targets are rehearsed in the plans for these militarist demonstrations.

"It is hardly surprising that such plans elicit a resolute protest from the peoples of Asia. These protests have gripped countries that are involved to one degree or another in the American strategy, for it is perfectly obvious that the U.S. bases in Japan, South Korea, and the Philippines essentially have been turned into the infrastructure of nuclear aggression. The indignation of the population of those countries can certainly not be regarded as an 'irony.' Indeed, who could be enticed by the role of Washington's nuclear hostages?...

"The desire of the peoples to narrow the sphere of nuclear preparations in the Asia and Pacific region is perfectly natural. The way to do this is to create nuclear-free zones. In accordance with the Rarotonga Treaty, the South Pacific has already been proclaimed such a zone. The ideas of creating similar zones in Southeast Asia and on the Korean Peninsula are finding more and more supporters in Asian states.

"The attitude of a particular great power to such noble initiatives attests to its true intentions. Thus, whereas the Soviet Union and the PRC have signed the protocols to the Rarotonga Treaty, Washington resolutely has declined to do so. It is permissible to ask: Just who is gambling on unleashing nuclear war in the Pacific? Of course, not the Soviet Union. Contrary to what O'Neill maintains, it is certainly not our country that is threatening the security of that vast region.

"However, the article by the director of the London Institute does contain one very sensible idea: That the time has come to devote attention to considering confidence-building measures for the Pacific. However, I think that for this we should not wait for a still greater deterioration in the situation.

"Particularly because a good basis for this already exists. In Vladivostok and Delhi, the Soviet Union advanced an extensive program of measures to lessen tension in that part of the world. The USSR proposed beginning talks on reducing the activity of military fleets in the Pacific, primarily ships equipped with nuclear weapons. Limiting rivalry in the sphere of antisubmarine weapons also would undoubtedly help strengthen stability. The Soviet Union is also ready to hold talks with the United States and interested Asian states on confidence-building measures in the military sphere in respect of Asia and the adjacent waters of the Indian Ocean and the Pacific. What is proposed, in particular, is notification of movements and maneuvers of these countries' ground (amphibious), naval, and air forces.

"Unfortunately, Washington is still avoiding making a direct response to those proposals. What is more, not so long ago, Pentagon chief Weinberger tried to depict the Vladivostok initiatives as though the USSR wished to hold talks only on limiting the activities of U.S. Armed Forces. This is a deliberate distortion of the Soviet position.

"It is time the U.S. military leaders and those who try to popularize their strategic constructs learned elementary conscientiousness in setting forth the other side's position."

U.S. VIEW ON DRA-PAKISTAN TALKS UNSHARED BY WORLD

LD242046 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1530 GMT 24 Feb 87

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] A new round of Afghan-Pakistani talks begins in Geneva on 25 February. Over to political observer Farid Seyful-Mulyukov.

[Mulyukov] Good day, comrades. Fratricidal bloodshed, which only serves the interests of U.S. neoglobalists and their mercenaries, has become hateful to millions of Afghans. The idea of national reconciliation has ripened at the heart of the masses themselves. That is why this course proclaimed by the leadership of democratic Afghanistan is receiving wide support among Afghan patriots.

You see, the national reconciliation program takes into account both social and economic peculiarities and the country's historic traditions. There is no other alternative. Kabul's constructive initiatives have met with understanding in many countries. The Indian Government has stated its support for the policy of national reconciliation in Afghanistan. Many participants in the recent conference of Islamic leaders in Kuwait also positively appraised it. As a result of Soviet-Pakistani talks, which took place in Islamabad and Moscow, the leadership of Pakistan has shown a striving to cooperate with the aim of a political settlement of the situation in Afghanistan. In this way, favorable conditions are being created for the Afghan-Pakistani meeting opening in Geneva under the aegis of the United Nations. It may bring the long-awaited peace nearer in the neighboring country, and this also will speed up the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan, who went there as internationalists to protect the freedom and independence of the young republic from imperialist intervention.

The restoration of peace and tranquillity in Afghanistan is inviolably linked with the political settlement of the tense situation around that country. You see, the main bases from which the United States and its allies are conducting an undeclared war are located on the territories of two neighboring countries -- Pakistan and Iran. It is sufficient to stop deliveries of weapons and ammunition to bands of extremists who have repudiated reconciliation and national dialogue and to guarantee noninterference in Afghanistan's internal affairs to make the serious obstacles on the road to settling this regional conflict disappear.

However, to judge from Washington's reaction, neither national reconciliation in Afghanistan nor the return of Soviet troops to the homeland enter into the strategic calculations of the U.S. Administration for that region. Now they openly are admitting in Washington -- I quote an ASSOCIATED PRESS report -- that the undeclared war in Afghanistan has become the largest among the secret wars being conducted against other countries under President Reagan. Special debates on Afghanistan took place a couple of days ago in the U.S. Congress. Some senators and Ikle, deputy chief of the Pentagon, voted for continuing military assistance to the dushmans and actually come out against a peaceful settlement of the Afghan problem. They are putting strong pressure on Pakistan and threatening a cessation of U.S. military and economic assistance if Pakistan goes for a compromise with Moscow and Kabul.

As yet, it is not fully clear what position the U.S. Administration will finally take, but the Afghan people have chosen the road of national reconciliation and construction of a sovereign, independent, and nonaligned Afghanistan, and this, in the final analysis, is the most important factor in resolving the Afghan problem.

KAMENTSEV RECEIVES SYRIAN, CUBAN OFFICIALS

PM231433 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 22 Feb 87 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Developing Cooperation"]

[Text] V.M. Kamentsev, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, had talks 20 February with General Hikmat Shihabi, member of the Ba'th Party regional leadership and chief of the Syrian Armed Forces General Staff, and Deputy Prime Minister S. Yasin.

Questions of the state of and prospects for the development of Soviet-Syrian economic cooperation were examined.

The same day, V.M. Kamentsev received a representative of Cuba's National Institute of Automated Control Systems and Computer Terminology.

Certain questions of bilateral cooperation of mutual interest were discussed.

The talk was attended by J. Camacho Aguilera, Cuban ambassador to the USSR.

MOSCOW REPORTS SHULTZ PLAN TO VISIT PRC

LD252225 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1400 GMT 25 Feb 87

[Text] As reported by an official U.S. State Department spokesman, U.S. Secretary of State Shultz will pay a visit to the PRC at the invitation of the Chinese Government. During the course of the talks, Shultz will exchange opinions with the Chinese leadership on issues of mutual interest and discuss a wide range of international problems. The State Department spokesman admitted that differences in opinion still exist between the United States and China with regard to the approach to Taiwan. He also stressed that Shultz intends to discuss the state of Soviet-Chinese relations with the Chinese leadership.

HOUSE REPORT NOTES U.S. UNPREPARED FOR REYKJAVIK

LD161342 Moscow TASS in English 1259 GMT 16 Feb 87

[Text] Washington February 16 TASS -- TASS correspondent Nikolay Turkatenko reports:

The defense policy panel of the House Committee on Armed Services released here a report on the Soviet-American summit meeting in Reykjavik on October 11-12 last year. Its authors admit that the Soviet delegation arrived in the Icelandic capital with concrete and detailed proposals and showed flexibility in the talks. The American delegation, however, was virtually unprepared for serious talks. The first impression was, the report notes, that the meeting offered an opportunity to reach important accords on medium-range nuclear weapons, nuclear testing and 50-percent cuts in strategic offensive armaments. The United States, however, declined a compromise.

Reagan's belief in SDI and his inability to understand the objections of the Soviet side led him to toughen his stand at the talks.

The report makes special note of confusion among the American delegates in summing up the results of the Reykjavik meeting. In his address to the nation on the evening of October 13, President Reagan claimed that as a result of Reykjavik, the two sides were closer than ever before to agreements that could lead to a safer world without nuclear weapons but stated at the same time that he had not surrendered SDI. The day before, at a press conference on October 12, Secretary of State George Shultz said that the talks in Reykjavik had aimed at the eventual abolition of all the nuclear offensive weapons. President Reagan himself confirmed this at his meeting with congressional leaders on October 14. However, the administration immediately began to argue that the talks in Reykjavik concerned only the eventual elimination of ballistic missiles.

Further on House Report

LD161700 Moscow TASS in English 1548 GMT 16 Feb 87

[Text] Washington February 16 TASS -- TASS correspondent Nikolay Turkatenko reports:

The U.S. delegation had arrived in Reykjavik for the Soviet-U.S. summit meeting of October 11-12, 1986, practically unprepared for serious talks.

This conclusion is contained in a report issued here today by a group of experts of the Committee on Armed Services of the U.S. House of Representatives.

The report describes the Reagan administration's conduct in the capital of Iceland as confusion.

The report points out that it seemed, at frist, that an opportunity presented itself during the meeting to reach important accords on medium-range nuclear weapons, on nuclear tests and on 50-percent cuts in strategic offensive arms. However, the United States declined to make a compromise.

The report says that various interpretations inside the U.S. delegation as to what actually happened in Reykjavik are quite a graphic evidence that the U.S. side was ill-prepared for the negotiations.

In his address to the nation the evening of October 13, President [as received] claimed that the Soviet Union and the United States 'are closer than ever before to agreements that could lead to a safer world without nuclear weapons' and at the same time he emphasised that he had refused to compromise on SDI.

The day before that U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz had stated at his press conference on October 12 that the talks in Reykjavik were about ultimate elimination of all nuclear offensive arms. This was also confirmed by President Reagan himself during the meeting with the Congress leaders on October 14.

However, the administration immediately began to state that the talks in Reykjavik were about eliminating finally only ballistic missiles.

The report recalls that on the eve of the Reykjavik meeting the administration had secured from Congress the withdrawal of a number of resolution on arms control issues on the plea that their passage would have made summit talks more difficult for the United States.

These included, in particular, several amendments passed by the House of Representatives: denial of funds to support deployment of forces in excess of the SALT-2 treaty sublimits, a continued moratorium on anti-satellite (ASAT) weapons testing, and a new one-year moratorium on all but the smallest nuclear weapons tests, a hold on production of chemical weapons, maintaining SDI funding at last year's level plus 33.5 per cent for inflation.

However, as the report emphasises, congressional consent to meet the administration's demands and thereby give the United States maximum negotiating flexibility in Reykjavik did not have any effect on the course of the talks.

To this the authors of the report could have added that the administration is known to have made use of congressional yieldingness only to torpedo the SALT-2 treaty shortly after the meeting in Reykjavik, to refuse outright any moratorium on nuclear tests whatsoever, and to demand a sharp increase in appropriations for SDI in the draft federal budget for the 1988 fiscal year and even additional appropriations for the "Star Wars" programme for the current 1987 fiscal year.

As far as the stand of the Soviet side at the meeting in Reykjavik is concerned, the report admits that the Soviet delegation arrived there thoroughly prepared for the talks, with specific and detailed proposals, and showed "apparent flexibility" during the talks.

TASS REPORTS REAGAN FOREIGN TRADE ADDRESS

LD212318 Moscow TASS in English 2246 GMT 21 Feb 87

[Text] Washington February 21 TASS -- Delivering a regular radio address to the nation on Saturday, President Reagan called for efforts to restore the competitiveness of American goods. As they lose their competitive edge, the demand for U.S. products on the domestic and foreign markets is dropping fast. As a consequence, the country's foreign trade deficit reached 170 billion dollars last year. Production is shrinking and workers are laid off on a mass scale as a result. Delivering on address from the Democratic Party to Reagan's address, Congressman Don Bonker said that more than six million jobs had been lost in industry, that thousands of communities were badly off and that the industrial might of the country was being eroded. According to the congressman, it was the President's own policy that led to huge trade deficits threatening the economic prosperity of the country. Economists do not think that the President has anything to offer to remedy the damage done by him to the U.S. economy.

BUSH AUTHORIZES PRESIDENTIAL CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE

LD200943 Moscow TASS in English 0751 GMT 20 Feb 87

[Text] Washington February 20 TASS -- U.S. Vice President George Bush considered for the time being the only leading aspirant to be slated as a presidential candidate from the Republican Party, authorized the establishment of the "George Bush for President" committee. This move means, in fact, the start of his election campaign, though he has not officially declared his decision to run for the presidency in 1988. "I want to be president for all Americans," proclaimed Bush declaring the establishment of his electoral committee. It will be headed by political consultant Lee Atwater who took an active part in Reagan's election campaign in 1984.

Koryavin IZVESTIYA Dispatch

PM161631 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 15 Feb 87 Morning Edition p 4

[L. Koryavin Washington dispatch under rubric "Facts, Events, Opinions": "White House Contender"]

[Text] U.S. Vice President Bush has addressed a press conference in the state of Michigan. He seems to have come out of the "shadows," where he has been throughout the noisy political scandal still raging in Washington.

The vice president made it clear that he does not share the administration's responsibility for the secret arms supplies to Iran. However, from the differences he mentioned over "Irangate," journalists could see that both the President and the vice president had known of the secret operation. Despite the fact that Bush attempted to vindicate both himself and the President, observers have the distinct impression that both leaders were involved in this business. But the main thing to which observers are drawing attention is that Bush has done this with a far-reaching political calculation in mind. The 1988 election campaign has already begun in the United States. With increasing frequency the current vice president is referred to as one of the leading Republicans in the White House marathon.

They are clearly worried by the Democrats' growing influence on the political processes taking place in the United States. And they are particularly alarmed by the fact that the Democrats hold leading positions in U.S. Congress. [paragraph continues]

Reagan's policy is oriented toward whipping up an unrestrained arms race, indulging in adventurism in the international arena, and refusing to take a reasonable attitude in resolving highly complex domestic problems such as, for example, the problem of the huge budget deficit and state debt. The Republicans are losing their prestige and, consequently, potential voters.

Party strategists are particularly concerned by this. They are now trying to present Bush to the voters as the epitome of political "caution" and "reason," even hinting at a "confrontation" with the President. They want to portray Bush as the "golden mean" which would satisfy many Americans. They write that he is "more left-wing" than the traditional conservative and "more right-wing" than the traditional liberal. What is more, a number of commentaries are even indicating that "Bush is breaking with President Reagan." This opinion is obviously too categorical, but observers are in no doubt that, aspiring to the Presidency, the vice president would prefer to shake off the "Reagan legacy" and jettison his cumbersome political impedimenta on the way to the White House.

One thing is clear: Reagan's ship has sprung a leak. Some of the crew are already fleeing. Others are hastening to stress that they do not agree with the course being followed. Few can still hope that in the remaining voyage time the ship will be able to successfully circumvent the reefs and weather the storms caused by the administration itself.

COMMENTARY EYES SPREAD OF ULTRARIGHTISTS IN U.S.

LD260414 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1630 GMT 25 Feb 87

[Commentary by Nikolay Agayants entitled "United States: Rightists Raise Their Heads"]

[Text] Judging by the latest reports from U.S. news services, all sorts of ultrarightists -- extremists, neo Nazis, Ku Klux Klaners and others of their ilk, in short, all those who openly preach the superiority of the white man and the cult of the iron fist -- feel very free and at ease in the United States today, under the protection of the Stars and Stripes.

This might seem improbable, but in the United States, which fought shoulder to shoulder with us against Hitlerite Germany, dozens of organizations of an overtly fascist persuasion are now officially active. It is not all that long ago that Steve Green, a correspondent for UPI, published extensive material under the symptomatic heading, "Terrorism -- made in the USA." There he gives details about the dangerous activity in the United States of homegrown followers of the frenzied fuehrer: Aryan Brotherhood, White Bastion, New Order, and the Neo Nazi party of the United States.

These are just the most odious of the U.S. extremist groups existing today in the shadow of the Capitol and the White House, whose members march openly through the towns and villages of America, flaunting swastikas and SS signs, iron crosses and other regalia of te Third Reich. Fascist literature is crashing down on the bookshelves of the United States in a murky flood. The policy of all these fascist youths is simple and uncomplicated: The fight against Reds, Negroes, Puerto Ricans and Jews. Their methods: blackmail, threats and terror.

As has become known, U.S. ultrarightists have acquired a special electronic computer information center, which enables them to use the cable television channels to notify members of efficiently subversive organizations of this or that provocative action being prepared.

Via the same channels, under the heading "Know Thine Enemy," they transmit the addresses of representatives of progressive organizations and the Communist Party of the United States for the execution of acts of terror.

Members of extreme reactionary organizations in the United States, dressed in the traditional robes of the Ku Klux Klan, are armed to recruit among the criminal rabble of fascist cutthroats. In special camps they annually conduct military training. There they learn methods of sabotage, diversion and noiseless killings. And the authorities? What about the authorities? They look down placidly on these extremist pranks and spread their hands in a gesture of emotion: "We have democracy, we are the most free nation in the world." The wild outbursts of rightists have become possible only thanks to the militaristic, reactionary, inhuman policy conducted by the Washington neoglobalists.

COMMENTARY ON 'AMERIKA' RATINGS IN U.S. CANADA

OW200435 Moscow Television Service in Russian 0155 GMT 20 Feb 87

[From the Novosti newscast; Viktor Konnov commentary]

[Text] The American public is showing less and less desire to see the provocative anti-Soviet film "Amerika" which was released by the American Broadcasting Corporation [ABC]. Our commentary:

[Konnov] Hello, comrades. During the airing of the first part of the "Amerika" series, the program attracted 38 percent of the American viewing public. During the broadcast of the second part, the number of viewers dropped more than 10 percent. This data was supplied by the Nielsen rating agency, which evaluates the popularity ratings of the three leading television companies in the United States.

Despite a long and well-publicized advertising campaign, the war movie "Amerika" is not proving successful. U.S. newspapers, and those in Canada, where the film is also being shown, are publishing damning reviews by both critics and public alike. The influential TORONTO STAR calls it brainwashing, whereas the TORONTO GLOBE AND MAIL characterizes the film as raw, stereotyped, and obtuse.

In many American cities, stretching from the western to eastern shores, protests were held in front of ABC headquarters and its affiliated companies. The film is based on lies and slander, said one of the participants in the protest. It is particularly dangerous under present conditions, where the world is being threatened by the growing arms race.

MOSCOW TV SAYS VOA EXAGGERATES ALMA-ATA EVENTS

OW250621 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1135 GMT 24 Feb 87

[From "The World Today" program presented by Vladimir Tsvetov]

[Text] The United States publishes many guides on conducting propaganda work. I looked through one such guide before coming to the studio. I read the following: The radio can be compared to an impudent salesman who hastens to place his foot in the door so that it is not shut in his face. The main thing is how to get the door open in the first place.

Forty-five years ago, on 24 February 1942, VOA first stuck its foot into international wavelengths. According to data published by the radio station, it is now broadcasting in 43 languages, 1,220 hours a week. The cost to the U.S. Government of maintaining VOA is usually kept a secret, but it is known that in 1984 more than a $1 billion was earmarked for a 5-year modernization program. What does the United States hope to gain by spending such an enormous sum?

One recalls the words of former U.S. President John Kennedy. Our nation, he said, is experiencing a need which is greater than the need for atomic, air, or even human strength; we have a need for ideological strength.

In 1947 when Russian language broadcasts first started, VOA leaders were aware that the United States was materially rich but spiritually impoverished. They also understood the following: Ideas can only be neutralized by ideas. The United States set a goal of neutralizing socialist ideas to undermine the Soviet Union from within. However, they really have nothing to neutralize it with. From the very first days of launching the ideological struggle against us, VOA has resorted to both blatant lies and half-truths, which are even more dangerous than outright lies, since they are harder to expose.

In practical terms this is how it is done. For example, let us take the events in Alma-Ata, which are well known to us all. The events occurred because of coarse infringements by the previous Kazakhstan leadership on Lenin's socialist national policies. VOA, in reporting the Alma-Ata events, exaggerated out of all proportion. It drew a conclusion that was in direct opposition to the truth; that is, the events took place as a result of Lenin's socialist national policies.

It was not surprising that VOA did not answer the question that logically stems from the conclusion that it drew: If the national policies of the Soviet Union are so bad, then why has our multinational country not come apart, even though we have been forced to live through very difficult trials? The war against Hitler cost us dearly, but we lived through it and came out not weakened by the experience but stronger than before.

The 18th century American philosopher Benjamin Franklin said it well: It is hard to make an empty sack stand upright. The U.S. Government is attempting to do well in the futile struggle of ideas and spares no funds for it.

ARCHIVISTS VISIT U.S., SIGN AGREEMENT

PM251435 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 21 Feb 87 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Talks Held"]

[Text] Washington, 20 Feb -- Talks were held at the U.S. National Archives 16-19 February between a delegation of Soviet archive workers headed by F.M. Baganov, chief of the USSR Soviet of Ministers Main Archives Administration, and American archivists. As a result of the talks, an agreement was signed on cooperation between the USSR Council of Ministers Main Archives Administration and the American Council of Learned Societies for 1987-1991.

An accord was reached on preparing the second volume of a collection of documents which will cover the period of history of Russian-American relations 1816 through 1865.

USSR-JAPAN FISHERY TALKS END IN 'UNDERSTANDINGS'

LD251910 Moscow TASS in English 1826 GMT 25 Feb 87

[Text] Moscow February 25 TASS -- Understanding reached during the 3d session of the Soviet-Japanese Commission on Fisheries, which ended here today, are a major move in the development of cooperation between the two countries in this field. Such an appraisal of the session was given by the heads of the Soviet and Japanese delegations after its end.

The commission approved a plan for joint fisheries studies in 1987 and agreed a draft programme for their implementation next year. The work will embrace both the study of sea animal reserves in the northwest Pacific and improvement of methods of processing fish and marine products.

The session examined for the first time prospects for cooperation between the sides in using live sea resources beyond the economic zones of the Okhotsk and Bering seas. The sides also discussed other questions of mutual interest, including those on boosting contacts between fishing enterprises of the two countries.

Consultations were also held on fishing salmon spawning in Soviet rivers. The Soviet side allocated Japanese fishermen a total quota for its fishing in 1987 at 24,500 tonnes or at the last year's level. Fishing areas remained the same, but volumes of fishing by areas were somewhat redistributed. For instance, the quota for fishing in the Japanese economic zone of salmon spawning in the USSR, was cut by 300 tonnes. The Japanese side will pay 3,700 million yens as a compensation for expenses of Soviet organizations on salmon protection and reproduction.

During the session the Soviet side again pointed to the very negative influence of sea fishing on the state of salmon reserves and called for the development of bilateral cooperation in their rational utilization. It proposed that joint test and production enterprises for salmon reproduction be established on the Soviet territory.

KAMENTSEV RECEIVES JAPANESE BUSINESSMEN

LD161533 Moscow TASS in English 1512 GMT 16 Feb 87

[Text] Moscow February 16 TASS -- Vladimir Kamentsev, vice-chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, has met and talked today with representatives of Japan's business circles, who are currently staying in Moscow in connection with the holding of the forum "For Nuclear-Free World, for the Survival of Humanity." The discussions covered questions pertaining to the development of mutually beneficial trade and economic relations between the two countries, in particular, cooperation between the Soviet organizations and Japanese organizations and firms in setting up on the Soviet territory of joint ventures in specific fields.

IZVESTIYA MARKS HUNGARIAN TREATY ANNIVERSARY, TIES

PM251630 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 18 Feb 87 Morning Edition p 5

[Reports by IZVESTIYA correspondents B. Rodionov and F. Lukyanov: "USSR-HUNGARY: The 10 Billion Mark" -- first paragraph is editorial introduction]

[Text] The 39th anniversary of the signing of the Treaty on Friendship, Cooperation, and Mutual Assistance between the Soviet Union and Hungary -- the treaty which laid the foundations for all-round Soviet-Hungarian cooperation -- falls on 18 February. What is new at the moment in the sphere of economic relations between the two countries, what is planned for the near future? IZVESTIYA's correspondents report on this from Moscow and Budapest.

[B. Rodionov] Budapest -- This year Soviet-Hungarian trade turnover reaches a high level -- the 10 billion mark, in convertible rubles. The USSR satisfies 100 percent of Hungary's growing import requirements for gas and electricity and more than 90 percent of its oil requirements. At the same time, Hungary accounts for at least 90 percent of Soviet imports of buses, river ships, and floating cranes, half the apples, and one-fourth of the medical supplies.

These and other statistics were reported to journalists by M.S. Kozin, USSR trade representative in Budapest, at a news conference to mark the 39th anniversary of the Soviet-Hungarian treaty.

In 1987, for the first time, the trade exchange protocol allocated as a separate item the sum of R20 million to be accounted for by means of direct ties and joint production by Soviet and Hungarian enterprises. It is a relatively small sum as yet, but will grow and grow. In the near future, the Mikromed joint enterprise will commence production of medical instruments, while the joint production of large electronic circuits and other types of output is in preparation.

This year four union republics -- the Ukraine, Moldavia, Georgia, and Azerbaijan -- will receive independent funds for direct trade exchange with Hungary. This will stimulate the implementation of the agreement concluded a few years ago.

Our country's technical assistance in the construction of the most important national economic project of the Hungarian 5-year plan, the Paks AES, continues. This year the construction project's international collective is to commission the fourth and last unit of the first phase. According to IAEA data, the power station, which is being built to Soviet designs and fitted with equipment from the socialist countries, is one of the world's top stations in terms of efficiency and reliability.

[F. Lukyanov] Moscow -- Stability and a systematic approach -- that is a brief characterization of the development of economic ties between the USSR and Hungary last year, 1986. These features of trade between our countries acquire special value against the background of the general instability and stagnation observed over a long period in the world market, which, of course, cannot but have a negative effect on the economy of countries like Hungary that are oriented to a significant extent to the foreign market, E. Molnar, Hungarian trade representative to Moscow, told journalists. Speaking of the state of Soviet-Hungarian economic relations and the main results of 1986, he noted the continuing growth in the two countries' reciprocal trade turnover.

Hungary continues to participate in the construction of the main gas pipeline from Yamburg to the USSR's western border and the opening up of the Tengiz oil and gas deposit, where Hungarian specialists are building a gas processing plant.

Participation by Hungarian enterprises in the modernization of Soviet plants and factories has become a traditional element of cooperation. In 1986 work was completed on modernizing a fashion footwear production line at the Parizhskaya Kommuna factory.

What will be new in 1987? First, both sides will focus increasing attention on the development of such forms of cooperation as the establishment of direct ties between Hungarian and Soviet enterprises and the creation of joint production associations. Direct ties are currently maintained by about 60 Hungarian and Soviet enterprises. But E. Molnar noted that it is rare for these ties to extend to production activity. The new intergovernment agreement on the procedure for establishing direct production -- specifically production -- and scientific and technical ties between Hungarian and Soviet enterprises, signed in November 1986, will give new impetus to deepening such forms of cooperation.

There also will be some changes in the structure of each side's exports: Hungary's share of machines and equipment will increase by 6 percent, the USSR's by 15 percent. More Soviet motor vehicles, both cars and trucks, will appear on the Hungarian market, as well as clocks and watches, vacuum cleaners, and other electrical equipment. In turn, Soviet plants will purchase more Hungarian industrial machinery, and more Icarus buses, which are so popular with passengers, will appear on the streets of our cities.

SUDANESE OFFICIAL URGES WAR MEDIATION IN SOUTH

JN251535 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1432 GMT 25 Feb 87

[Text] Khartoum, 25 Feb (SUNA) -- Idris al-Banna, deputy chairman of the State Council, has called on Suleyman Tatilev, head of the visiting Soviet parliamentary delegation, for USSR mediation to end the war in southern Sudan.

In a brief speech opening a press conference by the Soviet delegation here today, Al-Banna touched on the results of the delegation's visit to Sudan. He said that the visit constitutes an advanced step toward restoring bilateral relations to normal after they were frozen by the defunct regime which took sides with U.S. policy.

Delegation Visits Sudan

For reports on the visit to Sudan by Suleyman Tatliyev, chairman of the Azerbaijan SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and his accompanying delegation, including their talks with Prime Minister al-Sadiq al-Mahdi and State Council Chairman 'Ali al-Mirghani, see the Northern Africa section of the 19 February Middle East & Africa Daily Report and subsequent issues.

SUDANESE AMBASSADOR ARRIVES IN MOSCOW 17 FEB

PM201150 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 18 Feb 87 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report under general heading "Official Reports"]

[Text] Abu Bakr 'Uthman, ambassador of the Republic of Sudan to the USSR, arrived in Moscow 17 February.

SHEVARDNADZE RECEIVES, TALKS WITH YAR ENVOY

LD191621 Moscow TASS in English 1601 GMT 19 Feb 87

[Text] Moscow February 19 TASS -- Today Eduard Shevardnadze, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, minister of foreign affairs of the USSR, received 'Abd al-'Uthman Muhammad, the ambassador of the Yemen Arab Republic (YAR) to the USSR, who delievered a personal message addressed to Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, by President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih of the YAR.

Some matters of Soviet-North Yemeni relations as well as of the situation in the south of the Arabian Peninsula and in the Persian Gulf area were touched upon during the conversation.

UN ASSOCIATION DELEGATION VISITS EGYPT

PM241142 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 20 Feb 87 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Delegation's Visit"]

[Text] A delegation of the Association To Promote the United Nations in the USSR, headed by O.C. Peresypkin, member of the association's board, which is in Cairo on a visit, was received by Butrus Ghali, Egyptian minister of state for foreign affairs. [paragraph continues]

In the course of the conversation the sides expressed their desire to promote efforts aimed at strengthening peace and international security, resolving regional conflicts by political means, and developing mutual understanding between peoples. A special place was devoted to the Near East situation and measures toward a settlement. Attention was drawn to the statement made by M.S. Gorbachev on this question in his speech to the participants in the Moscow international forum "For a Nuclear-Free World, for the Survival of Humanity."

The Soviet delegation is holding talks on questions of developing cooperation with the Egyptian Association To Promote the United Nations.

Communique Issued

LD251815 Moscow TASS in English 1747 GMT 25 Feb 87

[Text] Cairo February 25 TASS -- A delegation of the Soviet U.N. association led by Oleg Peresypkin, a member of the association's board, ended a visit to the Arab Republic of Egypt. The delegation had talks with Egypt's U.N. association led by 'Abd al-Ahmad al-Din, on the development of cooperation and on strengthening contacts between the two bodies. The Soviet delegation was received by Butrus Ghali, Egypt's minister of state for foreign affairs.

In their joint communique the two associations expressed their desire to contribute to the promotion of the role and importance of the United Nations as the most important instrument of safeguarding peace and stated their resolve to step up efforts for stronger international security. The sides welcomed the stipulations of the Harare appeal of the non-aligned countries and the Delhi declaration on the principles of a nuclear weapon-free and non-violent world.

The associations voiced worry over the continued explosive situation in the Middle East and stated their intention to contribute to the early implementation of the resolution approved on the Middle East by the 41st session of the U.N. General Assembly to give the peoples of the region peace and a guaranteed right to national sovereignty and safe existence and development. The establishment of a comprehensive and lasting peace in the Middle East, the communique stresses, is only possible through the convocation of an international conference with the participation of all the interested parties, including the Palestine Liberation Organization, the only lawful representative of the Arab people of Palestine.

The Soviet and Egyptian U.N. associations called for an early end to the Iranian-Iraqi conflict and for the settlement of all contentious issues through talks on the basis of the commonly recognized norms of international law.

GORBACHEV TOURS, ADDRESSES ESTONIAN REPUBLIC

Addresses Estonian Komsomol

PM231451 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 21 Feb 87 First Edition p 1

[PRAVDA Report: "Visit to Estonia: M.S. Gorbachev's Speech at Komsomol Congress"]

[Text] Dear comrades, dear Komsomol members! My visit to your republic has coincided with a very noteworthy event -- your Komsomol congress -- in the life of all young people of the republic. I am pleased to meet you, friends. I cordially greet your congress and the young people of Soviet Estonia on behalf of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union. Ahead you have the Komsomol Congress, and I imagine that we will meet many of you again in Moscow to talk about the tasks of the Komsomol and all our young people; about the contribution that the party and the Soviet people are counting on at an important historical stage of the development f socialist society. Still, I shall take advantage of this favorable occasion, this opportunity to meet you, to say a few words to you, the delegates of the 20th Congres of the Leninist Communist Party League of Estonia. Your congress is taking place at an unusual period; I would call it a period of revolutionary changes unfolding in our society. The entire country is moving toward a big event in the history of the Soviet state -- the 70th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution. In all the 70 years since October, we have traveled a centuries-old path. Socialism has led the peoples of our great motherland of many nationalities onto the broad road of independent self-determination, free development. Everything we have achieved, everything we have today -- a powerful economy, an enormous scientific, intellectual, and cultural potential, the great gains in the sphere of social progress -- is all the result of the selfless struggle of all generations of the Soviet people; it is all a firm and reliable foundation for our new creative plans, our confidence in the future. We are proud of our country, of its past and present. However, we want to see our country renewed, even more dynamic, and confidently taking the course of fully opening up the huge potential of the socialist system, the most just and humane system, the system of the working people, for the working people. The 27th Congress of our party has proposed to the people a program of acceleration of the country's socioeconomic development; a program of restructuring Soviet society. Restructuring and line of acceleration are being linked by all Soviet people, every work collective, every family and every citizen of the land of Soviets with their best hopes and plans.

But we are all well aware that all this will come not like manna from heaven but as a result of an intense labor struggle and as a result of creativity, innovation, new discoveries, and bold daring.

A great mission has befallen the present generation -- to take the country to new heights of social progress, and to open up tremendous opportunities for the development of man and for the implementation of his creative abilities. As I have already said, we are moving toward this through restructuring. It is developing along a whole front, embracing all spheres of Soviet life. It requires the active participation of all the country's working people -- the working class, the peasantry, the intelligentsia, men and women, veterans. It opens up for our Soviet youth unprecedented opportunities for using their young energy, fervor and knowledge and to demonstrate their fighting nature.

Dear friends! Time requires of all of us that we think in a new way, act in a new way, and strive for new, qualitative changes in everything, everywhere. Here, in this struggle, the party is counting on its faithful aide and militant reserve -- the Komsomol, and our Soviet youth.

Worker and peasant youth, students, young representatives of the cultural front, the technical intelligentsia, and Army youth are represented here at the congress. That's splendid. Each detachment of young people has, of course, its own specific job to do, but all of you are participants in the nationwide struggle to implement the line toward accelerating socioeconomic development and the renewal of our society.

At every stage of the struggle for socialism, each generation has made its own indispensable contribution to the common cause. Today we rightly count on the active participation of Soviet young men and women in the matters of restructuring. This is your cause, this is your today and your tomorrow!

I hope that the plans and the problems of restructuring will be the main theme of your Komsomol congress.

The congress should help every young person find their place in this gigantic struggle. As in the revolutionary, fighting, and turning points in our history, may the motto of the Komsomol sound forth: "Go forward! Go forward to restructuring!"

Dear friends! Whatever you may be involved in, whatever problems and practical deeds you may be called on to solve, each of you, each Komsomol organization, and all young men and women must prepare politically and spiritually to accept from the older generations the revolutionary baton and carry it confidently forward. This is your civic and patriotic duty, the main predestination of each subsequent generation, not only to continue the cause, but to elevate the country to new heights.

We must always remember this, and then the most straightforward, everyday things which you are doing today and will do tomorrow will acquire immense significance as a part of the common work and common efforts in the name of socialism. If you asked me what the present younger generation's reply to Vladimir Ilich Lenin's call to study communism should be, I would say this: Prepare yourself for restructuring, take an active part in restructuring, elevate our society and elevate the prestige of the Union of the Soviet Socialist Republics!

The spring of 1987 will be here in a few days' time. Probably each one of you has had occasion more than once to observe how in spring nature awakens, the snows melt, brooks are created, streams flow together and rivers are filled. That's how I think of the present stage of restructuring in which all the peoples of our country, Communists, Komsomol members, and all the working people, are taking a more and more active part. What only yesterday reminded one of a brook is today a powerful, nationwide movement toward restructuring in which all the republics, all the labor collectives and the whole of our great country have joined.

We must do everything to ensure that this movement grows.

The contribution by Soviet Estonia's working people to the solution of our common tasks is valued in our country. The CPSU Central Committee is confident that at the present stage of the development of our society, too, the working people of Estonia will do everything to rise to the new historic tasks. When I speak of this I also think, friends, about the increasing labor contribution of the young men and women of Soviet Estonia. Think together while you are at the congress how to make your contribution more weighty and more considerable.

We can see how the process of restructuring, which has been initiated by the party, and the creation of a new atmosphere in the country is increasing young people's creative energy. Their self-awareness and activity as citizens are also growing. Young people are anxious to use their strength. They are putting forward interesting initiatives, calling for order and discipline, and fighting against everything that stands in the way of our progress.

You may count on the help, support, and attention and trust of the party in your patriotic deeds.

I wish you, dear friends, success in your congress, and I wish you new, great creative deeds for the glory of our Soviet homeland! (M.S. Gorbachev's speech was heard with great attention and was accompanied by applause.)

Visits 9 May Kolkhoz

LD202251 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1400 GMT 20 Feb 87

[Excerpts] Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev is continuing his meetings and conversations on Estonian soil. Here is a reportage from our correspondent:

[Correspondent] Immediately after his meeting with young people at the 20th congress of the republican Komsomol, Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev drove out to Paidevskiy rayon. [passage omitted describing landscape] On Estonia's livestock farms, the average milk yield has exceeded 4,000 kilograms a cow: this is the best index of all the union republics. The 9 May Kolkhoz, where Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev has now arrived, is one of nearly 300 farms in the republic; here both animal husbandry and agriculture are nearly conducted steadily; there have been no failures even this winter.

[Begin recording] [Gorbachev] A beautiful spot you have here! Do you have to pay a tax for living in such a holiday resort? [laughter from crowd]

[Unidentified man] No. It's like the north here, its very northerly.

[Gorbachev] Lovely landscape as you drive along the road. The land is well tended, there are good roads and [word indistinct]. You can't see the fields. It's hard for you in the fields, but the snow in the fields, that's the main thing. There's a lot of forest, lots of it.

[Unidentified man] Lots. Forty-three percent.

[Gorbachev] Karl Genrikhovich [Vayno, Estonian CP first secretary] told me that 20 percent of it is marsh; 43 percent forest and 20 percent marsh. [laughter from crowd]

[Unidentified man] (?here) It is nearly 10 percent, and the rest is the land where we work!

[Gorbachev] And that's where you, work, hey! [laughter]

[Unidentified man] The land is good, very good indeed.

[Gorbachev] Good, is it? Many, many years ago, when I went to work in the Central Committee and dealt with agrarian affairs your yields were already 30-31 quintals per hectare. And (?at present)?

[Unidentified man] Forty-two.

[Gorbachev] But why have you [word indistinct]?

[Unidentified man] The best land is here in these regions.

[Gorbachev] Leave off that! [laughter from crowd] Comrade Vayno told me that we were going to a kolkhoz which is not a bad one, but which will give a typical impression, If it is typical, is 42 typical then?

[Unidentified man] Yes, it must be...Estonia must give 42 quintals of grain.

[Gorbachev] I sense that you probably have this tradition: each one searches for a corner for himself. You already have your own farmsteads here. One a bit higher up, the other lower down somewhere. One senses that things are alright even in winter. I must tell you that in our country we respect the working people of Estonia. Generally, we have only just begun. Some have to improve a bit more, some a bit less [words indistinct] and those republics and collectives that have big achievements, including your cooperative, which, As I have heard, has quite good achievements, must also do more today. They must do more. Nevertheless, we must all do a little -- those who can must do a little more, but nevertheless do more. That is who (?we) work for, the most privileged class [as heard].

If we were to combine the southern sun and the rains of Estonia, it would be a wonderful combination. There are black soil lands, expanses, land, but little moisture over there. I know that here sometimes it gets turned into a swamp, so that it becomes difficult to reap the harvest. Sometimes two tractors drag the harvesting equipment. I only know that according to history bread was difficult to harvest on this land. Always. And everything that has been put in, to work and to keep to it, to do everything -- now that you are equipped with technology you can achieve considerably more. Good. How are the schoolchildren? Do they have to walk far to school?

[Unidentified man] No, just around the corner.

[Gorbachev] Round the corner? And, I see there are kids who live around here on the farmsteads, let us say.

[Unidentified man] A bus will drive them from the farmsteads.

[Gorbachev] They will be given a lift. They will come out onto the road, and will be collected. So that everything has been thought out.

[Woman] Very good.

[Gorbachev] There are no difficulties, or problems. How about shopping? Do you have to go to Paide?

[Group of people all talking at once] No, you don't have to, you can do it here, locally. The shop is round the corner.

[Gorbachev] Do you have your own medical center?

[People] Yes, we have.

[Gorbachev] Do you work summer and winter? For the stock farmers, it's clear; for the machine operators it is also clear that there is work. But how about the others?

[Unidentified woman] Those who want to work will always find work. [words indistinct]

[Gorbachev] How about light industry? Does anybody put in orders so that someone could knit a sweater at home? Or do you turn down such proposals because you have no time? You have enough of your own work?

[Unidentified woman] No, we don't have time. In Paide, there is a small workshop where they knit.

[Gorbachev] But, in general, those who can, they can. This is after all a workshop -- you can make an arrangement, those who have time. Who has time? No one! [laughter] You know, when there is no time it is very good. It means that everybody is busy. Well, thank you. [end recording]

[Correspondent] We should note that this farm has solved the problem of output quality. It has done so by constructing special storehouses for grain and fodder as well as for potatoes. Mikhail Sergeyevich visited one of these stores.

[Begin recording] [Unidentified man] We have eight of these stores.

[Unidentified woman] On the farm.

[Gorbachev] So that means, for 4,000 tonnes...

[Man interrupts] We produce 3,000 tonnes of dry hay.

[Second unidentified man] We have the technology which enables us to gather the hay with a bailer.

[First unidentified man] Without anything being done by the people.

[Second unidentified man] Yes, because it is easier. It is compacted and the work is easier that way. More can be fitted in.

[Gorbachev] Is your livestock specialist happy?

[Unidentified man] Yes, very happy.

[Gorbachev] Have you had this sort of forced ventilation for long? [crowd answers in affirmative] Does all the hay have it? [crowd answers in affirmative] And under cover? [crowd answers in affirmative] Well done!

[Unidentified man] All the fodder in the republic...

[Gorbachev interrupts] Otherwise there would be no output. Are you paid according to fodder quality? Do you get something for it? Is there something in it for you as plant growers to do this? Surely, if you don't get paid forit then do the energetic agricultural workers, at least the nonapathetic ones, at least receive any incentives for this hay?

[Voices in crowd] We get 50 percent.

[Gorachev] That is extra for quality?

[Voices in crowd] Yes. [end recording]

[Correspondent] Let me note that all kolkhozes and sovkhozes in the Republic of Estonia are now profitable.

Meets Leaders, Tours Milk Farm

PM240925 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 21 Feb 87 Morning Edition p 1

[Report by IZVESTIYA special correspondents V. Gavruchkin, G. Gukasov, and A. Druzenko: "Vital Shoots of Restructuring"]

[Excerpts] Tallinn -- On 20 February M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, addressed delegates of the 20th Estonian Komsomol Congress, which has opened here in Tallinn. M.S. Gorbachev then went to Paydeskiy Rayon, where he learned about the rural workers' work experience, which has become widely known in our country. [passage omitted]

This was the main topic during M.S. Gorbachev's numerous meetings and conversations with agricultural workers, specialists, and scientific workers in Paydeskiy Rayon. The CPSU Central Committee general secretary paid a visit to the "9 May" Kolkhoz -- a solid farm, although not one of the best. An "averagely good" farm, as they say here. [passage omitted]

In conversation with leaders and specialists of the "9 May" Kolkhoz, M.S. Gorbachev asked how economic methods of production management are being applied in practice.

"The new socioeconomic situation and strengthening of order and discipline have affected management results," Kolkhoz Party Committee Secretary A. Prints said. "Every kolkhoz member now produces output worth R24,000 on average. We have set ourselves the target of producing 2,000 quintals of milk and 400 quintals of meat per 100 hectares by the end of the 5-year plan. In terms of money per worker, that will amount to roughly R29-30,000.

M.S. Gorbachev asked how labor organization and remuneration are being improved in the collective and advised a bolder switch to the collective contract system, since experience shows that financial autonomy will not bring the desired result even to very strong farms when there is no contract. It should be borne in mind that the contract method takes toot better in small collectives. There is now experience of even major livestock complexes being financially autonomous while their links work on a contract basis, including family contracts. The "9 May" kolkhoz and other farms now need the same approach in production organization in order to advance with greater vigor.

M.S. Gorbachev then learned about the organization of milk production at the "Ulejoe" kolkhoz livestock unit. He inspected the farms' technical center, school, and new kindergarten and enquired about the rural workers' living conditions. In explaining the party's present course of further democratizing life, the CPSU Central Committee general secretary stressed that it is an objective process that reflects the essence of the socialist society. [passage omitted]

Milk Farm Conversation

PM241507 Moscow TRUD in Russian 21 Feb 87 p 1

[TASS special correspondents A. Belikov, B. Grishchenko, N. Zheleznov, and A. Prisyazhnyy report: "The Best Indicators Must Belong to All!"]

[Text] Tallinn, 20 Feb -- Make thrifty use of resources -- whether in the field, at the construction site, in the plant shop, or in the science laboratory. This simple truth is the basis of our entire society's progress and ultimately determines the fate of the restructuring launched in the country.

M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, began his familiarization with the Estonian agro-industrial complex today with a meeting with rural workers. They assembled by the entrance to the Culture Center on the "9 May" Kolkhoz in Paydeskiy Rayon, which M.S. Gorbachev was visiting. The workers included A.A. Peterson, who has worked at the kolkhoz for 30 years. Even now she works to the best of her ability. Her sons Elyas and Eduard are machine operators. Her grandsons are growing up and, as Alida Aleksandrovna said, have no intention of leaving the land of their fathers and grandfathers to go to the city.

For over 30 years now the farm has been headed by Hero of Socialist Labor E.A. Liyeberg, a peasant by birth. Skillful labor organization, the conscientious work of the country people, and the development of the village's social and consumer complex have placed this kolkhoz among the leaders. This year the farm has already reached the level of the 1990 plan indicators for milk and meat sales.

At a meeting with members of the kolkhoz board and party committee, kolkhoz party committee Secretary A.R. Prints cited many factors to explain how this high level has been achieved. They include intensive grain cultivation techniques and efficient feed procurement methods. Forty grant-aided students from the kolkhoz are studying at VUZ's and technical colleges. They have begun building classrooms for their own specialist training center.

M.S. Gorbachev praised the work of the kolkhoz collective and advised them to continue holding fast to the course of improving workers' living and working conditions. But what about your neighbors, he asked, who come to visit you, see how you are working and living, but cannot follow your example...?

A.R. Prints: We do not wait for people to come to us to study our experience. We take it to them ourselves. We have teamed up with a laggard kolkhoz in the rayon to bring it up to standard.

M.S. Gorbachev: When did you begin this sponsorship?

A.R. Prints: Last April. Since then our chief specialists have been making regular visits to that farm, where they share their experience and help by word and deed. Recently we had a joint conference. Its results were pleasing: Yet another farm in the rayon has improved.

K.G. Vayno, first secretary of the Estonian Communist Party Central Committee: We examined this initiatve closely in the Central Committee Bureau, Mikhail Sergeyevich, and approved it. Now there are quite a few examples in other places, too.

M.S. Gorbachev: This is very good. It is necessary to give every encouragement to different types of patronage by the best farms. We already have examples of that kind. A powerful farm using advanced techniques offers its services to a laggard farm in roughly these terms: Your harvest is 20 quintals per hectare, let us work together and increase your yield to 30 quintals per hectare. Everything above that figure will be ours for the time being. Well, you should be equally beneficial to the advanced farm and the laggard.

K.G. Vayno: We shall take this experience into account.

M.S. Gorbachev: You have to begin with individual farms, there must be no haste. It is important to see how beneficial this is to the peasant, this is a tricky matter. After all, people will say: Our neighbors have complained that we ourselves do not know how to work properly. You must act respectfully, and remember that this is a typically socialist phenomenon. Indeed, where in capitalist society would you find someone who would help his neighbor? There it is good when my neighbor falls on hard times, you see, that is when I raise my prices. We do things differently -- so let us show what our socialist fraternity on earth is like.

The conversation turned to labor organization on the kolkhoz and to the economic mechanism. M.S. Gorbachev asked whether the contract system is being widely used. Experience shows, he said, that this method achieves results more quickly in small collectives. In Novosibirsk, for example, they have created intensive labor collectives. Just 4 people work 2,300 hectares. They each produce output worth R75,000-R110,000 a year. The main thing, M.S. Gorbachev stressed, is that people working on the collective contract do away with everything superfluous -- superfluous workers and superfluous equipment. No one hires superfluous people because that affects prime costs.

The conversation then actually continued in the shops of this farm, the largest in the republic. Shops indeed -- you would not use any other word for its capital buildings: modern stockraising premises, feed storehouses, workshops, and potato storehouses.

"We keep all our feed under cover," one of the kilkhoz workers said.

"And how much did that 'cover' cost?" M.S. Gorbachev inquired.

Chief agronomist T.E. Liyeberg answered: It cost R120,000. The team working under contract here -- five people in all -- fills this huge storehouse with fresh hay by fall.

M.S. Gorbachev: But do people receive good-quality hay? Are people given a material incentive for quality?

T.E. Liyeberg: Yes, payment clearly is dependent on hay quality.

After donning white coveralls, M.S. Gorbachev and the farm leaders went through to the dairy farm premises. The farm has 640 cows. Production last year was 5,548 liters of milk per cow. It is planned to increase the yield to 6,000 liters by the end of the 5-year plan.

What are the average wages for the farm's workers? M.S. Gorbachev asked.

V.V. Allyara, a teamleader, said: R350 plus a bonus.

M.S. Gorbachev: What is the milkmaids' workload, how many cows do they milk each?

V.V. Allyara: Eighty cows, but if you include all workers the average is 35 cows each.

M.S. Gorbachev: That is good. You have to calculate the costs in terms of all the farm's workers. What is the surrender weight of livestock?

Dairy farm leader M.A. Rull: At least 470 kg.

M.S. Gorbachev: Yes, by all accounts restructuring is in evidence here. This is good, but I can see that you have reserves, too. Why? Because I can see the kind of people I am dealing with. The standard of production, people, cadres. You have everything needed for growth and to ensure that no one rests on his laurels.

M.S. Gorbachev was invited to visit the house of a family of kolkhoz members. This was the house of K.Ya. Poom, a driver: His wife also works on the farm, his daughter Anu is in the 10th grade; and his son Peter is now doing military service in the Soviet Army.

M.S. Gorbachev: How much does a house like this cost?

K.Ya. Poom: R25,000. The farm pays R12,500, the other half is paid back over 25 years. We hav a car -- a Zhiguli -- and a garage. The family's earnings average R500 a month.

M.S. Gorbachev: It is a good house.

K.Ya. Poom: It was built by the direct labor method. The furnishings are our own.

M.S. Gorbachev: Is it Estonian furniture?

Housewife: Yes.

M.S. Gorbachev: People should take that into account, too. They should not just think about incomes but about good housing...

K.Ya. Poom: Yes, we agree.

After touring the kolkhoz, M.S. Gorbachev wrote an inscription in the honored visitors' book.

"I was very satisfied with my visit to the '9 May' Kolkhoz. I was pleased by everything: the achievements in the economy, in social and cultural building, and particularly with the people, the kolkhoz workers, by whose hands and minds all this has been achieved. There is something else that I like. While working toward high targets, the kolkhoz collective is already thinking about reaching new targets in the future. I want to congratulate all the workers on their great achievements and express the hope that all future plans will come to fruition."

"I also would like to wish all residents of Vyaets village happiness and to wish every family good fortune."

On the same day, there was a meeting in Payde city between M.S. Gorbachev and first secretaries of Estonian Communist Party rural raykoms.

The meeting was addressed by Ya.Yu. Martin, first secretary of Paydeskiy rural raykom, S.V. Kont, first secretary of Kharyuskiy rural raykom, Yu.A. Niysuke, first secretary of Rakvereskiy rural raykom, M.E. Kolosova, first secretary of Valagskiy rural raykom, and V.Ya. Udam, first secretary of Pyarnuskiy rural raykom, and Kh.T. Veldi, chairman of the Estonian SSR State Agro-industrial Committee.

They described the work which is being done in rural party organizations to fulfill the 27th CPSU Congress' decisions and to implement the USSR Food Program.

The conditions are being created within the republic's agro-industrial complex to increase labor productivity and the production of agricultural output. The conference participants noted that progress is not easy and that it is being hindered by sometimes outmoded forms and methods of party work and the tendency of some leaders to use bureaucratic administration. There are also reserves in the use of the potential created in the countryside.

Summing up the results of the conversation, M.S. Gorbachev said: The rayon link has always been of decisive significance in implementing policy at all stages of our history. Now, too, when we have begun such profound transformations and an abrupt change in all things, the rayon link is again bearing the brunt: It has to make the policy of restructuring mesh with real life. We must do so on the basis of the specific features of a given city or rayon party organization, specific economic, social, ideological, and cadre features, and so forth. I should like to note that no one will free the party or its local organs -- from responsibility for the situation in socioeconomic development and other spheres.

The most important thing now is to ensure that party organs at all levels become increasingly political. This, I would say to you, is a task at least as complex, if not more so, and requires greater skill, greater political maturity, vision, ideological conviction, knowledge of the fundamentals of education, and so forth. This is no easy matter.

At rayon level, an active social policy surely means that people must be integrated in society. Then they will work, will consolidate themselves in the labor collective, gain experience, and become skilled workers. People's integration in society is the basis for the creation of stable collectives. That is the key to labor productivity, to efficiency, to everything.

Party organs must focus their attention on the question of new approaches to labor organization, up to and including firms, and help to the kolkhoz, including greater integration with processing industry and, of course, new approaches to organizing the internal life of the kolkhoz and sovkhoz. Finally, this means all levels of production permeated by financial autonomy, with extensive use of the team contract. Without new forms, without the realization that man is the master of production, the human factor will be dead.

There will be no human factor unless there is constant contact with people and understanding of life. The key to this is to change style. Now, when the raykom is increasingly mobilizing other organizations, when the soviets are responsible for themselves, the rayon agro-industrial association for itself, and the rayon public health department for itself, the party raykom must concentrate on the work of party organizations, the work of labor collectives. Our organizational work must progress in that direction.

Finally, comrades, no one will replace the party raykom's coordinating role. The soviet, the rayon agro-indutrial association, construction workers, the cooperative system, teachers, and medical workers must all perform their own functions. The soviets have their own sphere, too. Why should the party raykom be responsible for trade and medical care? The soviets must be made accountable. Let them act and be responsible for their actions.

Party organs must be political leadership organs. This means that the raykom will bear the responsibility for the economy and everything else. It can see better the political and social consequences of all economic and social measures, can see where they are leading, the influence that they have, and how this corresponds to the policy that we have formulated.

Meets Party First Secretaries

LD202051 Moscow TASS in English 2036 GMT 20 Feb 87

[Text] Tallinn February 20 TASS -- On the same day [as received] the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee had a meeting in the city of Paide with first secretaries of rural district committees of the Communist Party of Estonia. They spoke about the work that is conducted in rural party organizations to fulfill the decisions of the 27th CPSU Congress, to implement the food programme of the USSR. Party functionaries noted that the process of advancement is not easy, that it is hampered at times by dated methods and forms of party work, by the fact that a number of leaders have got accustomed to high-handed measures.

Summing up the conversation, Mikhail Gorbachev said: The district echelon has always been decisive in pursuing a policy at any stages of our history. And now that we launch such deep-going transformations, take a sharp turn in all affairs, the district echelon bears the brunt of the task of linking it up proceeding from specific features of some or other city, district part organization, proceeding from economic, social, ideological, cadre specifics, and so on.

The crux of effective social policy at a district level is, perhaps, that a person must be socially accommodated. Then he or she will work, will stay on in a work collective, accumulate experience, become a master. Social accommodation of a person is the essence of creating stable collectives. This is the key to the productivity of labour, to effectiveness, to everything else.

The question of new approaches to the organization of labour must be in the focus of attention of party bodies. This question should include great integration with the processing industry, and, naturally, new approaches to organizing inner life of collective and state farms. And, finally, this includes cost accounting with a wide use of team contract system at all levels of production. The human factor cannot be brought into play without new forms, without the realization that man is master of production.

The human factor cannot be applied effectively without constant communication with people and without understanding. The key to this is the change of style. Now that the district committee must increasingly involve other organizations, that the soviets account for their own area of work, district agro-industrial amalgamations for their own sphere, district health services department for their own areas, the district party committee must concentrate on the work of party organizations, on the functioning of work collectives. This is where organizing efforts should be applied.

Party bodies must be political organs of leadership. This means that the district committee is responsible for everything, for economy and all the rest. It sees better than everybody else the political and social consequences of all economic measures, of social measures, sees where they lead, what effect they take and how it suits the policy we have worked out.

Discusses Workshops, Machines

LD202256 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1600 GMT 20 Feb 87

[Text] The itinerary of Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev's trip involved passing through the 9 May Kolkhoz workshops. Here machine operators aquainted Mikhail Sergeyevich with a serious problem that has to be resolved not only at this farm, but at many other Estonian kolkhozes and sovkhozes. The point was that a very large proportion of equipment received from works has to be altered afterward in workshops and adjusted for use in local conditions. Considerable supplementary funds have to be spent on this, and labor wasted. This is what machine operators and farm engineers were telling the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee.

[Begin recording] [Gorbachev] Now we have the Rayon Agro-Industrial Association here. Has it changed relations for the better or not? Now that all have been united in Rayon Agro-Industrial Associations -- kolkhozes and sovkhozes, and enterprises that earlier were governed by selkhoztekhnika.

[Unidentified man] On the whole, relations are normal.

[Gorbachev] But are they drafting their plans according to your orders? Does it not happen like this: You ask them for spares, and now the Rayon Agro-Industrial Association sends them to repair enterprises while leaving kolkhoz orders unfilfilled.

[Unidentified man] We can never get as many spares as we need and when we do not get enough we have to do some reconditioning ourselves.

[Gorbachev] I am looking into your answers and thinking: We have been trying to find people for our Foreign Ministry for such a long time [words indistinct] and here they are. [general laughter]

Come nearer, chairman of the Agro-Industrial Association. Tell us, please, what is the situation now?

[Unidentified man] The situation here is as follows: all plans are being drafted...

[Gorbachev interrupts] On the basis of orders from kolkhozes?

[Same man] On the basis of orders from kolkhozes and sovkhozes and [words indistinct]. But, apart from this, enterprises of the former selkhoztekhnika are manufacturing here very many [word indistinct] machines for the whole republic.

[Gorbachev] Are the prices the old ones, those that were established before, or is the Rayon Agro-Industrial Association determining them?

[Same man] The Rayon Agro-Industrial Association is determining them, but this does not mean we have no problems [words indistinct].

[Gorbachev] If you had said that you have no problems...[general laughter], especially with regard to technical equipment! About technical equipment I will tell you this: What we have drafted -- you know this program, we are fighting for it to the death -- incorporates machines systems for all the types of main agricultural operations, and not random machines systems. And if we fulfill this program -- this should be completed in the 12th 5-year plan -- this should be completed in the 12th 5-year plan -- then we will move on entirely to resolving the problem of comprehensive mechanization. What mood are you in? Spring will set in soon, work will start soon.

[Unidentified man] Yes, soon.

[Gorbachev] Will everything be ready?

[Voices] Yes, it will.

[Gorbachev] Well, what then. All the best to you, I wish you a good spring, a good harvest and a good life. [end recording]

Walkabout in Paide

LD212047 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1900 GMT 20 Feb 87

[From the "Vremya" newscast; video coverage of walkabout by Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, following meeting with Estonian rural raykom secretaries in Paide on 20 February -- recorded]

[Text] [Announcer] After the meeting at the raykom in Paide, there were a large number of stops and conversations on the streets of Paide. [video shows Gorbachev standing in the street addressing a crowd of people]

[Gorbachev] Well said! We shall (?stay on course). You know, if you imagine our whole country as a large ship setting out on a very major voyage, and having to face storms and so on, then everything must be in good order on the bridge, and the whole crew must work hard. The crew is the whole country. The CPSU Central Committee and the Politburo now have an understanding of what needs to be done in the country, how things must be done, and we are very pleased that this policy of ours has received support, understanding and support. This is very important.

The most powerful support that policy can have is in action. So, thank you for that. Estonians knew in the past how to work, and today they are doing a lot. But, all the same, you too need to try to do more, you need to try. We must all try. You know, we were in the kolkhoz, chatting to the chairman and the specialists and the secretary of the party organization, and it turned out that more could be done. On the livestock farm the milk yields are good, but it turns out that they could be higher still. So, there is work to be done. They rayon gets a harvest of 35 quintals a hectare, and the kolkhoz we visited gets 42. And the figure for the republic is 28. So you can see what opportunities and reserves there are.

The land has not been easy to work here. The peasants have found it hard to win their bread here [words indistinct]. But now the crops, the equipment, the fertilizers, and the people themselves are different. And so bigger tasks can be set, including for you -- although you're not working badly now, it wouldn't be (?fair to say that).

[Unidentified man] We need new tractors for this. You know, the equipment...

[Gorbachev interrupts] Practically all our tractors are going to be new. We are going to have a good tractor model, 176 horsepower I think, a very good tractor. This will help you start your work earlier; it won't compact the soil.

You have to approach this sensibly. I feel that this is one of the things we have to do a bit of work on for our northern regions -- the Baltic area and the non-Chernozen zone of the RSFSR -- where there is more waterlogged land and the soil is thin, and if you use heavy equipment the crop isn't good and the equipment simply cannot function in such weather conditions. We shall make headway, comrades. We shall also have wheeled equipment. We are going to have a new range of combines, and I think they will be combines capable of working more effectively here as well. From what I was told, I understand the losses are high, they are high.

By the start of the 13th 5-year plan, we shall, by and large, have created our agricultural machine-building base. We have spent 14 billion rubles on this. Then, in the 13th 5-year plan, we have to ensure we have comprehensive mechanization, both in crop farming and animal husbandry.

[Unidentified man] Can I ask something else?

[Gorbachev] Of course!

[Unidentified man] We belong to a small construction organization and have small managerial cadres there. I have this question: We always have problems with sanitary engineering equipment when handing over residential housing for the population and when we do construction work for our rayon.

[Gorbachev] We were talking about this today.

[Man continues] It's very difficult, very difficult.

[Second unidentified man] We get all kinds of rush work, late production drives, and this of course...

[First man interrupts] And this affects the quality of our work.

[Gorbachev] I think you're right.

[First man] We should, of course, improve quality even more. Although we are improving it, and we are doing all we can to do so, things are always a little late. We have a delay of 5-6 days. It is all because of the sanitary engineering equipment, by and large. We fail to get all the gas pipes we need, or water pipes, or radiators. As a result, we have very, very great problems. Since our plan is a state matter, we think that from our point of view, of course, we...

[Gorbachev interrupts] You know, you said small organization. But you are posing a question relevant to the state, one we discussed recently at the Politburo and we (?sent) instructions to the government. Why? We are currently trying to find sources and we are even taking money from construction in the production sphere to channel more money into housing and social, cultural, and consumer amenities, to create better conditions for people. You have no doubt heard about this, I spoke about this yesterday. It turns out that we can probably provide more ferroconcrete, more bricks and cement. We also have timber for this. The job can be done. It turns out that the greatest bottleneck is sanitary engineering equipment. We now shall be considering what to do. We have given instructions, and now, no doubt, it will be necessary to build several more works so that matters can be improved.

[Young man in crowd] A question, if I may. Will our state be conducting nuclear tests now that the Americans have done so again?

[Gorbachev] What is your view?

[Man] I cannot say.

[Gorbachev] Well what? How does it look to you?

[Man] I think that we could wait a bit longer, and then see how they respond.

[Gorbachev] Yes. But look how long it is already, since August last, ah, the year before last...

[Voices in crowd] Yes, yes.

[Gorbachev] ...the year before last. You know, what they are trying to do is break through to military superiority via space. As they see it, we are behind in computer technology and materials technology. They think that they will be able to devise exotic kinds of weapons which will give them the advantage. Just look at the whole of postwar history; throughout they have been striving to obtain superiority. They invented the bomb and they put it into service to intimidate the Soviet Union. So we had to have ours. Then came missiles, and we had to do the same. Then came multiple warheads, and we had to make them, too. Then those third and fourth items were based on atomic submarines and we had to do the same. This is necessary because we cannot permit ourselves to fall behind. The capitalists will become more insolent. They will try to order us about.

Let me say this. You can rest assured when it comes to defense. That is point number one, and point number two as well! If we do nothing, the capitalists, and especially the military-industrial complex, will have an interest in continuing the arms race. Thus our task is to foil these plans. That is why we are attempting to pursue an acitve foreign policy. You can no doubt sense this. I do not have to repeat myself on that score, as it were. So we will act thus. But, nevertheless, we will keep an eye on our defense. We cannot allow the country to be under threat. This must be ruled out.

Now they also have another task, you know. They have seen that we have set our plans in motion. The country has started to ponder how to put things in order, how to come to terms with technology and science, how to get everything moving. They are even more scared of this than they are of our weapons. They have plans to wear us out economically, to prevent us from getting our economy moving and from lifting and improving the country, and to wreck our restructuring. That is their task. I believe they will not succeed.

The fact that there is now understanding in the country allows us to conduct business confidently, and you have no need to worry on that score. But I ask you to do one thing: take action, help and prop up the policy with practical action. With regard to that concrete problem, we are not carrying out explosions, though we have revoked the moratorium. We are not carrying out explosions. But they have already carried out two blasts since that. We will do everything we can to compel them, up to the final chance, so to speak, to go ahead and join in with us. If we don't manage it, we cannot sacrifice our defense. We shall have to take action. We shall have to take action. There are limits beyond which it is not possible to go any further.

GORBACHEV COMPLETES VISIT TO ESTONIAN REPUBLIC

Visits Polytechnic Institute

LD211628 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1200 GMT 21 Feb 87

[Excerpt] The 3d day of the stay in Estonia of Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central committee, began with a visit to Tallinn Polytechnic Institute. Here is a report from our special correspondents:

[Unidentified correspondent] Tallinn Polytechnic Institute, one of the largest higher educational institutes in Estonia, is welcoming Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev.

[Begin recording] [Gorbachev] We are very pleased to visit you. Although my time here is short I am gradually getting a picture, an impression of my own, of what life is like in Estonia. Even in winter one can feel that this is a beautiful land. What are we going to do in the institute, Valentin Georgiyevich? You are not going to make us attend a lecture?

[Unidentified man] We are not going to make you attend one.

[Gorbachev] So perhaps let us start by sitting down somewhere and having a chat.

[Unidentified man] That's fine, let's do that.

[Gorbachev] I always have the same thing to say to young people. You are in the 3d year?

[Unidentified man] Yes.

[Gorbachev] For you the doors are already starting to open into life and you will be entering it just at a time when the economy -- everyone says that this is the main sphere -- will be changing over intensively from one track to another, essentially, to new mechanisms and new methods of administration.

Well, it is enough to tell you that we have been criticizing political economy thoroughly and fundamentally. Our political economy of socialism has become bogged down on many concepts, but it turned out to be nondialectical from the viewpoint of life and movement. Productive forces now have reached such a level that they have required a certain nature of their own and all the production relations as we built them in the 1930's, the 1940's, and the postyears; they are now, well, we now have called for creative, serious and deepened work. We have removed all the prohibitions in this regard. Also, we cannot pile everything on to political economy and science. It is now wider, of course, primarily with regard to the attitude toward property, for this is the most important and the most undeveloped question. There are the questions of the interrelations of people in the production process, the question of the economic mechanism, the question of distribution, allocation, of how much has been violated here -- all of this now needs to be worked on.

It is very interesting that practice is now even running ahead of the political economists. And if practice is not armed with the scientific (?spirit), then practice can make many mistakes.

Therefore, look at the law on enterprises. It is laid down in that. But I think that this is still just a draft law and people will have a lot to say about it. But the main thing that was spoken about at the January plenum is in there.

There is a vast amount of work to be done, vast. You will be involved at a time when all this will be put into practice, when it will be gaining momentum. All this requires knowledge, intelligence, youthful energy and bold decisions. You know, the most difficult thing is to deal with habit. But since you do not have ingrained habits yet, your lively, youthful viewpoint is needed: you haven't yet been spoiled by practice. [laughter]

[Unidentified man] Concerning the position of young specialists....

[Gorbachev, interrupting] It must be said that the most difficult debates are underway on these documents. And we've lost our way to a considerable extent here. First, no one could show the Politburo what determines the number of students today.

[Unidentified man] During a meeting at the city hall it was noted that management sometimes distances itself from the people. Do you believe the party will be taking any steps to promote young people to leading positions?

[Gorbachev] I believe that the sense of the January plenum is just that. The problems of democracy fundamentally must be advanced. Proposals still are being prepared, and the party has not yet decided how these bodies are going to be formed.

But in Narva there was this issue of the first secretary. Representatives of the Central Committee went over to examine things. The aktiv told them: No, after the January plenum we're not going to carry on like that; give us several candidates and we'll have a secret vote. We welcome this. Let people act irrespective of when the directives and regulations are issued. The policy exists, the goals have been set, and this opens the way. Now all the collectives are joining in wherever they are. This has happened throughout the country.

A worker at the Latvian chemical works spoke at the meeting with the aktiv. He said: We should all be involved in this, from the team leader to the director. That is why I said to him: Deal with the director himself! All the others have already been elected on a vote. Now that this process has started, it first will bring the cadres closer, because today the cadres will be genuinely dependent on the working people. That is the most important thing to ensure that we don't get a situation in which they are imposed form the top, a pig in a poke is brought in, as if they were independent of the collective. That is no good. This awaits you, too. They will be electing you. [laughter] Because you are cadres.

As for young people, yes, we said at the plenum that some kind of rift has taken place, the natural process has been violated, that of the combination of young people and experienced cadres. This is now improving. I can tell you that a great many young people have already been promoted to important posts, so that this situation will change. Of course, I'll tell you frankly that we often try to educate young people like this, to lecture them, to edify them. On the whole this is also useful, but, after all, the main school is trust, carrying out the work one is entrusted with, and work, work, work -- people grow on work. Life sorts out people quickly and shows people's worth, who is a leader, who carries out tasks.

This soon manifests itself. Life is not a professor of political economy. There is a lot of work for you. Now that we are going over to economically efficient methods of management, much has to be mastered. This is not a simple matter. Everyone has become used to giving orders; we even say: captains of production, he gave an order....

[Unidentified man, interrupting] Workers and enterprises have money, their money, but they can't, let's say, allocate it to cultural things.

[Second unidentified man] They can now.

[Gorbachev] Now, in the first place, they can allocate it by themselves; and second, what is most important, they can implement this. Now what funds they have for housing construction and for social, cultural and consumer amenities will, in the first place, be ensured by construction contracting, whereas previously it was like this: all the money would be released and there would not be enough contracting, and then there is money but you can't get anything done. Those who build using direct labor with their money are also assured of construction materials.

[Unidentified man] Mikhail Sergeyevich, generally to work in a new way means to learn anew, but the sort of textbooks that deal with problems are scarce. We have a great deal of old textbooks [words indistinct].

[Gorbachev] We need textbooks that young people will read, so that you could become engrossed in this as with, say, a good detective story. [laughter] If it is concerned with history, if it is concerned with our real life and if it is well written and illustrated, it is most interesting. What can be more interesting than life? [end recording]

[Correspondent] Mikhail Sergeyevich then visited the exhibition of technical achievements of the higher educational establishment in the conference hall. On the stands are robot equipment, computers, examples of the interesting developments in methods to control the operating modes of power supply systems. They are used in the all-union power grid of the country as well. Specialists at the institute cited this fact, that every rouble invested in science is recouped three-fold. Then Mikhail Sergeyevich met with prominent scientists in the Hall of Councils. At the meeting, there was a discussion of the contribution of the scientific work of higher educational establishments to the country's overall scientific potential. After visiting Tallinn Polytechnic Institute, where discussions took place with students and teachers and a conversation was held on the problems of young people in higher education, Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev met with Estonia's party economic aktiv.

The following were invited to the building of the republic's Communist party Central Committee: members of the Central Committee, first secretaries of gorkoms and raykoms, trade union and Komsomol activists, leading officials of ministries and departments and of major enterprises, leading scientists, workers in culture and education, and public health officials.

The meeting of the aktiv was opened by Comrade Vayno, first secretary of the Estonian Communist Party Central Committee. He told of the new things that had appeared recently in party work in Estonia. A certain amount of experience in elections appointments to leading posts already has been accumulated. When resolving important questions, there has been more openness of discussion.

A number of important experiments are being conducted in the republic's economy. This makes it possible to relax the pressure on labor resources to a certain extent and to take a new step for the changeover to self-recovery.

Comrade Rebane, president of the Estonian Academy of Sciences, told of progress in restructuring in the republic's scientific institutions.

Comrade Moroz, director of the (Lauristina) machine-building works, dwelt on work in the new conditions of the state acceptance of production.

Writer (Vladimir Beekman) spoke of problems in the sphere of ideological work.

Sillari, first secretary of Tallin Gorkom, [name and title as heard] told of new forms of party work.

The meeting of the party-economic aktiv was addressed by Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev. In his speech he dwelt on questions of interrepublican ties between the Soviet republics and on progress in the democratization of our society.

Mikhail Sergeyevich drew the attention of those taking part in the meeting to the role of rayon committees and party committees in restructuring. It is precisely with this section that particular responsibility rests at the present stage.

Active social policy and attention to the social sphere are one of the most important directions of work by party bodies. It is precisely in the social sphere that policies become apparent, Mikhail Sergeyevich noted. Here there are also some unresolved issues, especially in housing construction. People should begin to feel already in this 5-year period the dynamism of our economy.

The general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee also analyzed certain issues regarding the development of the republic's economy and noted that the growth of capital stock in agriculture is significantly ahead of growth in goods manufacture. The potential created ought to be used more effectively. There are opportunities for this, primarily though the introduction of financial autonomy and the collective contracting method. Mikhail Sergeyevich also shared his impressions on his stay in the republic.

After the aktiv meeting we spoke to one of its participants:

[Begin (Plush) recording] (Gennadiy Gennadiyevich Plush), director general of the Vladimir Ilich Lenin Kreenholm Manufaktura combine in Narva. My impressions from the aktiv and from Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev's stay in the republic as a whole: I've come away with a great deal from these days. [end recording] [passage omitted]

Addresses Estonian Aktiv

PM231633 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 23 Feb 87 First Edition pp 1-2

[TASS report: "Speech by M.S. Gorbachev at Meeting With the Estonian SSR Party, Soviet, and Economic Aktiv"]

[Text] Dear comrades! I cordially greet you on behalf of the Party Central Committee and want to express my great satisfaction at the opportunity to meet with the Estonian republic party organization aktiv. My stay in your republic is nearly over. It was brief, and I would like to come again.

But because it has been packed with meetings and conversations with working people -- with party workers, veterans, and young people -- and with country dwellers and city folk, even this short stay in your republic and the conversations with the republic's leadership have enabled me to enlarge my picture, my knowledge of Soviet Estonia.

Today's meeting with the aktiv and my conversation yesterday with the secretaries of rural raykoms have special significance since they are discussions, so to speak, between comrades in arms, between party workers. What is more, the main topic is the restructuring of the activity of party bodies, party workers, and all our cadres at this important stage that our society is passing through.

First of all, since much has already been said and published in these two days or so, I want to stress in my introduction: Today's Estonia is a modern society, a society with a developed economy, with a developed culture, science, and education. Here you will meet a person who is sure of himself, who possesses modern knowledge. This is perhaps the main, the greatest impression.

It is the result of the immense work our party has done since the October Socialist Revolution. It is also the result of the activity of the republic's party organization and party aktiv, the result of the efforts of working people of Soviet Estonia.

In fact, Estonia has achieved a high level of economic and social progress and of the people's spiritual growth. When I said that, I was thinking how much the entire situation and the entire atmosphere in our multinational country, where there are more than 100 peoples and ethnic groups, differ from other states in the world.

The bourgeois system is basically incapable of solving the nationalities problem. In all parts of the world, in different continents, there is endless hostility between nations, cultural isolation, enmity, and alienation between peoples because the nationalities issue has not been solved. Conflict and hostility between nations is today perhaps the most acute phenomenon in the world and a relatively widespread one. Imperialism makes wide use of these phenomena in its own interests, causing conflict between peoples, between ethnic groups inside states, and between entire states, and imperialism today is operating in accordance with the old "divide and rule" principle in order to weaken its opponents and plunder and exploit others.

I said it during my stay in Latvia and I want to say it again now that I am with you: It is the joint efforts of all the peoples and ethnic groups of the USSR that have increased many times over the ability of these peoples to solve all tasks -- political, economic, social, and cultural. This is the practical implementation of Lenin's nationalities policy.

When we talk about this, we all know that none of this happened of its own accord, automatically, as it were. This process -- the flourishing of nations, their voluntary unification, and cooperation based on mutual interest -- has been directed all the time by the Communist Party and guaranteed by the firm implementation of Lenin's nationalities policy, which is based on recognition of de facto as well as de jure equality of the peoples and their free and comprehensive development.

Of course, this great task has not been without omissions and errors (we know this, too, we do not conceal it, we remember it). There have been exacerbating factors too. But none of this changes the main outcome of the party's activity to unite the peoples and ethnic groups in the Soviet Union. It does not change the result of the great community of people which is the Soviet Union today.

The main thing is that we have created a powerful, multinational, flourishing state in which extensive opportunities are ensured for each people, for their social, cultural, and national development in conditions of the socialist system.

In fact, we have all become accustomed to a great deal. We take it all for granted. But it is a totally unique phenomenon, our Soviet Union. We are all linked by inextricable ties.

Take Estonia's links with other republics, or just one aspect of these links -- the economic aspect. They are relations which in many states, in different conditions, do not come to fruition.

I have said already that today's Estonia is making a marked contribution to the country's national economic complex. The country receives from the republic defense industry, civil machine building, and light industry products and foodstuffs. According to a recent summary of interterritorial turnover, which I have in my possession, Estonia's contribution stands at somewhere in the region of R2.5 billion per year.

These are impressive figures. But that is, so to speak, one side of the question, one side of this all-penetrating link.

The other is that Estonia receives from all-union resources many types of fuel, rolled metal, machine-building and chemical products, yarn, fertilizers, grain, and other products. A sum total -- according to the same summary -- is approximately R3 billion. There you have it, the living dialectics of our multinational country.

The most important thing is that all the people of our country view the future with confidence. Their selfless labor, their work is reliable because they have a long-term policy and strategy. I am referring to the 27th CPSU Congress line of accelerating the country's socioeconomic development.

All these comrades, are the truly supreme achievements of the people of the Soviet Union. I had two reasons for wanting to talk about this. In the first place because I am full of impressions as a result of my contact with, my visit to, Soviet Estonia. Second, we have entered a jubilee year, the 70th anniversary of October, when, naturally, we look back over our history and try to interpret again and again and sum up our common struggle and learn lessons for the future. Perhaps for us today an indubitable conclusion can be drawn from our past experience of the multinational development of our state -- continue the great cause started by Vladimir Ilich Lenin, strengthen and augment the friendship of the Soviet peoples, and further improve relations between nations on the only correct basis -- on the basis of internationalism.

I have already talked in Latvia and Estonia about my impressions and conclusions, about much that concerns our work at the present stage. The most important thing for us party workers is what working people think about the plenum, about our line, about our approaches and there have been very interesting discussions about this.

But, above all, I want to share my big impression, one that demonstrates, it seems to me, the profound changes in our people's consciousness -- of the enormous interest in what is being done in our country under the party's leadership to implement the restructuring line. There has been a very great deal of opinion and advice. I must say that it is simply amazing how many interesting, valuable, and serious ideas our people have amassed, often of statewide as well as republican significance. I am becoming very deeply convinced during my visit to you that we have acted correctly, that we have embarked on the path of broad democratization of the entire life of Soviet society.

Let us remember Ilich's famous expression: "An illiterate person stands outside politics." But, comrades, how educated the people are in our country. In socialist conditions they have also amassed vast political experience.

So we must all realize, feel, and draw the conclusion that there is only one path for us today, and in order to get society moving, get to grips with our plans, and achieve new targets it is necessary to develop our socialist democracy. It guarantees fulfillment of our plans, it guarantees nonrepetition of what led in the past to serious losses in the economy and in the spiritual and social sphere. We must develop democracy first and foremost in the actual ruling party.

It was in this context that I listened with interest to the speeches by K.G. Vayno and other comrades. I feel that a process is taking place in the republic party organization involving in-depth interpretation and the reaching of conclusions on the results of the Central Committee January plenum.

There are more plenums, there are aktivs and meetings of Communists still to come. We have given advice in the Party Central Committee -- we do not need any race to find out who is the quickest to hold a plenum, as has happened in the past. It is important to come to the plenum, to the Communists Party's meeting with well-wrought ideas, with well-wrought proposals in order not just to repeat what was said at the January plenum, but to place all its ideas and guidelines in the context of the specific conditions in which the party organization operates.

At today's meeting I would like to draw your attention to the following matter: the role of party raykoms and gorkoms and rayon-level cadres in the implementation of the decisions of the January plenum and the tasks of restructuring.

In fact, we began the discussion on this topic at yesterday's meeting with the secretaries of rural party raykoms. They are here today. I will say frankly, dear comrades, that I was not entirely satisfied with the raykom secretaries' speeches. I do not think that everyone has fully realized the depth and scale of the restructuring in our country and the demands it is making on the republic tier, and particularly on the rayon and city levels of our party. I wondered whether this was due to the fact that on a number of matters the republic party organization and its party gorkoms and raykoms and cadres recognized before anyone else the need to switch to new work methods in the economic sphere. For example, we backed your republic party organization through the Party Central Committee. The thought occurred to me that this might have led you to the conclusion that you had, in fact, been carrying out restructuring for ages.

This is not a categorical conclusion. I am thinking aloud in the spirit of party comradeship. I felt an anxiety, a concern, and I am sharing them with you. If you, dear comrades, at the level of the republic Communist Party Central Committee, at the level of party gorkom and raykom, came to the conclusion that the country indeed must undergo restructuring, but that it is to a considerable extent a stage you have gone through, I think that would be a great delusion, if not in fact an error.

Yesterday I promised, as I have already said, to return to the starting positions of our struggle, which are formulated in the CPSU's strategic course, to the line of accelerating the country's socioeconomic development and the need for restructuring. What we are talking about, comrades, is the large-scale underlying problems affecting the foundations of our economy and social policy, the functioning of the political system, and socialist democracy, management methods, the state of the spiritual sphere of society, and, finally, the life and activity of the party itself as the decisive force, as the guarantor of the success of restructuring. It concerns everyone and it goes to the heart of the matter, comrades.

One must not adapt to restructuring, confine oneself, as I have said many times already, to cosmetic half-measures, to plastering and painting, so to speak. No, comrades, it is a matter of fundamental work to strengthen our entire edifice of socialism, to consolidate and improve our socialist democracy. I ask you to think most seriously about everything I have said.

The raykom now must act as a political leadership body. This does not mean that it no longer has responsibility for the economy and for other spheres of society's life. In some places, perhaps, people have even thought that it is supposed to engage in pure politics or something. The point is that the party body must act as a political leadership body. The raykom cannot act as an economic management body -- that must be understood. It is not its function. We have a system of bodies for that in all areas, a system formulated in socialist conditions: There are soviet and economic bodies, for example, agro-industrial committees, if one is talking about rural localities, there are public health and education bodies, and bodies managing industry, construction, and all other spheres of the national economy. We have, finally, an entire system of public organizations that also has its own sphere of activity and influence.

So the task of party committees is to ensure constant leadership of and vigorous activity by this entire multifaceted system, to ensure that they are really involved in the restructuring process and make a real contribution. For this it is necessary to use the party body's authority and the methods characteristic of it.

The raykom has an impact on all processes and on all organizations by selecting and placing cadres, taking into account new aspects of democratization, educating cadres, and carrying out relevant organizational and ideological work.

The activity of primary party organizations is a powerful level for influencing the lives of labor collectives and all the processes taking place in society. Really getting involved in the process of restructuring every Communist on the basis of the development of primary party organizations' initiative and independent activity means essentially involving all labor collectives, the entire party, and the whole people in restructuring, because no single organization possesses such a system, such a powerful system covering the entire country and our whole society. This is the meaning of political leadership; this is what one must think about; this is the way one must act.

In this regard I want to talk once again about the human factor. At the moment, this topic is constantly on the lips of party workers. That is a good thing. However, maybe it is a bad thing, too, perhaps there is a certain danger here. The point is that by no means everyone has bothered to appreciate how this human factor is to be activated and made a decisive factor in restructuring. This, comrades, was the main theme of the Central committee January plenum.

To this end the plenum put forward a specific program for involving working people in the restructuring process through the extensive development of democracy. I am not going to repeat myself; I have said a great deal about this already. But it is making new demands and creating an entirely new situation for party and economic bodies, for all cadres and components, but, above all, for the rayon and city components. It is this component that is closest of all to labor collectives, closest of all to the working masses. It is the solution of these vital issues that will be the criterion for judging the stance of party raykoms and gorkoms and rayon- and city-level cadres and for judging how actively and consistently the line of the democratization of Soviet society actually is being implemented.

In fact, the situation is that the political line exists, the specific decisions for developing this process exist, and the people's support is there. But today we must activate those components of the party and state bodies that have direct links with working people. That is why we are talking of the special role, the special responsibility of the rayon and city component. Only an arrogant person would assume that that was a simple question, that we have basically solved it and it only needs a slight adjustment, so to speak.

I must say frankly that we can still discuss this matter today, exchange opinions, and look for ways of implementing the decisions of the January plenum. Perplexed questions are still in order for the time being, because we have to think everything through. But tomorrow anyone who continues to be obstinate, who will not understand the demands of the time, will simply have to get out of the way.

Life, and this is clear from the conversations that have taken place here in Estonia, has led us to the point where the task of democratizing Soviet society is our society's most urgent, most pressing need.

I want to return to a very important topic we discussed yesterday at the meeting with party raykom secretaries in Paide. In act it was prompted by my acquaintance with the life and activity of the "9 Maya" [9 May] kolkhoz. This farm shows again and again how important it is to condcut an active social policy. The provision of a wide range of social amenities for the kolkhoz collective is a very important factor in all that it has achieved. Of course, we do not want to play down the significance of the equipment level at the enterprise. But the key, the foundation of the success is the creation of a stable, highly skilled labor collective.

I liked the mood of the kolkhoz leaders who are very self-critical and, most important, think about tomorrow and are doing a great deal about it. They associate these higher plans with the solution of social questions, with the improvement of people's living conditions. That is why attention to the social sphere is a very important area of party bodies' activity as political leadership bodies.

Much has been and is being done in the republic in this very important, one might say, strategic area of our domestic policy. But I also felt, and comrades -- above all K.G. Vayno -- have said so today, that there are still many unresolved questions here, both in the city and in the countryside, particularly with regard to the housing problem.

I would like to take advantage of our meeting to speak once again about the great significance of the tasks of the 12th 5-Year Plan -- and that means also the plans of this jubilee year -- for the future of the restructuring. Perhaps, comrades, these years, the years of the 12th 5-Year Plan, are the most difficult for us all.

We must advance at a more rapid pace, and at the same time resolve new tasks to a significantly higher standard, restructuring, so to speak, on the move, on the march. This is no simple matter. We cannot postpone our plans, we cannot halt our progress. In this 5-year plan we must give people the opportunity to experience the fruits of the greater dynamism of our economy and to experience this, above all, through the social sphere.

While restructuring our economy, our policy, and the activity of party, soviet, and economic organs, while restructuring the entire management machinery and cleaning up our society on the moral plane, we must, at the same time, resolve current tasks.

In this context, we cannot but be concerned about hiccups in the initial stage of the jubilee year. I understand the criticisms I have heard from you in the course of conversations, regarding both material and technical supply and the work of bodies in this sphere of activity. These are justified criticisms.

But many of the reasons are to be found here in the republic itself. In this context, as if by way of confirmation, I would like to cite last year's results. The republic failed to meet plan targets for the development of science and technology. In machine building, one enterprise in four failed to meet the target for the assimilation of series production of new output. In capital construction you have many problems, too. If you take the agro-industrial complex -- which on the whole makes quite a good impression in your republic both in terms of the technical standard and equipment, and in terms of the results of economic activity -- here too there are enormous reserves. This was revealed by the conversations on the 9 May Kolkhoz and elsewhere. For many years now the republic has been marking time in grain production. In the last two 5-year plan periods, the provision of fixed production capital in agriculture has almost doubled, yet over those same 10 years, output has increased by 12 percent. The new prices came to your rescue. Otherwise your agriculture would make a loss. Think about this, comrades.

Incidentally, it also must be borne in mind that the capital-labor ratio in Estonia is three times higher than the average indicator for the country, while labor productivity is double the average.

This is the dialectic. On the one hand, big gains, and on the other, huge reserves. This potential must start to work, it must be brought into play, first and foremost through the economic management machinery, and your already well-assimilated financial autonomy must be supplemented by the collective contract.

The country has an interest in receiving ever increasing quantities of consumer goods from the republic. You have much experience. You have good cadres. [paragraph continues]

I was once again convinced of this by my visit to the Marat Knitwear Production Association and my conversations with the republic's minister of light industry. Both the association leader and the minister himself made a very favorable impression on me as people who are doing their job and are capable of doing it energetically. Although they do need the appropriate help and support.

I would like to say to the republican party organization aktiv that a task of great importance faces you -- that of ensuring the skillful combination and resolution of long-term and current tasks. When I speak of current tasks, I do not mean just the daily round. It is a question of economic, organizational, and political work to ensure the fulfillment of the current year's plans in all avenues and all indicators. Of course, quantitative indicators must, at the same time, be combined with high quality of all output and the fullfillment of deliveries according to contracts and of plans for procurements of agricultural produce.

If you were to ask me, what impression am I taking away from your republic? I would say: an optimistic impression.

A study of your work and your ideas on the prospects for restructuring encourages me. So often you go on a trip to raise people's spirits, and go away with your own spirits strengthened. In my view that is just how it should be.

I am leaving the republic with great tremendous confidence that the meetings and conversations and with tremendous confidence that the great tasks facing our country, the republican party organization, and the entire republic are within the powers of the Communists and all working people of Soviet Estonia.

I wish you great success, on behalf of the party Central Committee.

Gorbachev Departs for Moscow

LD211206 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1148 GMT 21 Feb 87

[From the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] We have just received a report that Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev has left Tallinn for Moscow. He was seen off at the airport by Comrade Vayno, first secretary of the Central Committee of the Estonian Communist Party; Comrade Ryuytel, chairman of the Presidiun of the Estonian SSR Supreme Soviet; Comrade Saul, chairman of the republican Council of Ministers; and members of the office of the Central Committee of the Estonian Communist Party.

LATVIA'S PUGO AWARDED ORDER OF LENIN

PM251509 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 19 Feb 87 First Edition p 2

["USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium Decree Awarding Comrade B.K. Pugo the Order of Lenin" -- PRAVDA headline]

[Text] Comrade Boris Karlovich Pugo, first secretary of the Latvian Communist Party Central Committee, is awarded the Order of Lenin for great service to the Communist Party and Soviet state and on his 50th birthday.

A. Gromyko, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium
T. Menteshashvili, secretary of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium
The Kremlin, Moscow, 18 February 1987

RESOLUTION ON CONSUMER SERVICE COOPS ADOPTED

PM161341 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 13 Feb 87 Morning Edition p 2

[Unattributed report: "At the USSR Council of Ministers"]

[Text] The USSR Council of Ministers has adopted a resolution "On Creating Cooperatives To Provide Consumer Services to the Population" and approved a model charter for them.

The resolution notes that in accordance with the 27th CPSU Congress decisions work has been launched in the country to ensure the accelerated development of consumer services for the population. The sector's material and technical base has been strengthened, it has been supplied with more modern equipment, the network of enterprises has been expanded, and the amount of consumer services provided to the population has increased.

Enterprises and organizations under the jurisdiction of all ministries and departments have been involved in this work, irrespective of their specialization or the nature of their main activity. Manufacturing ministries organize technical servicing firms under their jurisdiction of complex consumer equipment belonging to citizens.

At the same time, the population's need for consumer services is not being fully met. Considerable reserves exist for improving consumer services by making fuller use of the work of pensioners and other citizens not involved in social production, and particularly by organizing cooperatives. These cooperatives could supplement the existing network of state consumer service enterprises by providing services in great demand among the population and react flexibly to changing demand.

The USSR Council of Ministers deemed it advisable to create cooperatives to provide consumer services to the population associated with [pri] local soviet ispolkom administrations (departments), production associations (enterprises), and organizations in the system of union republic ministries of consumer services and other ministries and departments, irrespective of the nature of their main activity, as well as cooperatives associated with housing maintenance organizations. It is planned to focus cooperatives' efforts on providing services in repairing apartments, providing facilities for horticultural and homestead plots, servicing and repairing citizens' means of transportation, repairing and manufacturing metal products and furniture to order, baby-sitting, and caring for the sick and elderly, as well as providing hairdressing, brokerage, and other consumer services in great demand from the population in cities and the countryside.

Cooperatives are created on the initiative of citizens and local ispolkoms giving the presence of not less than three persons who have expressed a desire to participate through their work in their activity.

Cooperatives accept mainly citizens who are not involved in social production: pensioners, housewives, and students. Workers at enterprises, organizations, and institutions may work in cooperatives in their spare time on the basis of a labor agreement. The restrictions laid down by existing legislation on additional jobs do not apply. Students, workers, employees, and engineering, technical, and other workers may be contracted to carry out certain jobs during their vacations.

A cooperative's model charter binds its members to ensure reliable quality and high standards in services, to actively participate in running the cooperative's affairs, to look after and strengthen state and cooperative property, and to prevent mismanagement and a negligent attitude to public property.

Cooperative members are entitled to make proposals about improving the cooperative's activity and eliminating shortcomings in officials' work, to elect others and be elected themselves to elective posts, and to receive wages from the income to be distributed among cooperative members in accordance with the amount and quality of their work.

Cooperative members to blame for damaging the cooperative are materially responsible for that damage under the procedure and to the extent laid down by the legislation for workers and employees.

It is planned that the cooperatives will be corporate bodies, having their own independent balance sheets and operating on the basis of self-financing and self-capitalization in accordance with the charter adopted by cooperative members at a general meeting. Cooperatives are entitled to independently draw up and ratify plans for their production and economic activity, to determine prices for their services, and, after paying income tax to the local budget, to pay the remaining income at their disposal into their development and insurance funds as well as using it for wages.

Cooperatives may obtain long- and short-term credits from the USSR Gosbank following the established procedure and enter into contractual relations with state, cooperative, and other social organizations.

Upon their formation cooperatives are allowed to rent or are given free use of buildings, premises, equipment, and other property by local ispolkoms and the associations (enterprises) and organizations with which they are associated. Cooperatives' startup funds for the purchasing of material assets are provided by short-term credits issued by the USSR Gosbank.

The management organs, associations (enterprises), and organizations with which cooperatives are associated and USSR Gossnab organs are permitted to set aside for sale to cooperatives material and technical resources to enable them to fulfill the population's orders. Furthermore, cooperatives are permitted to acquire materials, spares, tools, and small equipment for cash through the retail trade network. Associations, enterprises, and organizations are entitled to sell unused trade and material assets to cooperatives, to provide them with transportation services on a contract basis, and to repair their machines, equipment, and transportation.

Cooperative members are allowed to use their own motor transport, equipment, tools, and premises for carrying out the tasks facing the cooperative in recouping expenditure.

Cooperatives' funds shall be based on income received from sales of services and other revenue.

Income from cooperatives' activity is used to recoup material expenditure, to carry out compulsory payments and deductions, and to pay income tax. And cooperatives pay for the use of electricity, gas, water, steam, and municipal services in connection with the existing procedure and payment scales for these services laid down for the administrative organs, associations (enterprises), and organizations with which the cooperatives are associated.

On the decision of their general meeting cooperatives may allocate some of their funds to state, cooperative, and other social organizations to build production, housing, and cultural and consumer projects on a shared basis. Cooperatives are responsible for meeting their commitments out of their own funds and property. The state bears no responsibility for cooperatives' commitments.

The length and organization of the workday in the cooperative, the procedure for granting days off and annual and supplementary leave, the minimum labor participation in the social economy, and other questions of cooperative members' labor activity shall be regulated oy the charter and rules governing the cooperatives's internal procedures.

Cooperative members' wages shall be determined in accordance with the amount and quality of their work and their personal contribution to the creation of income. Cooperative members are paid on the basis of rates (scales) and piece rates ratified by the general meeting, while workers and employees engaged by the cooperative are paid on terms stipulated by labor agreements. Pay for work carried out under contract will be in line with the labor contract. Cooperative members and people working in the cooperative on the basis of labor agreements fully retain their pensions, study grants, or payment for their main job.

Cooperative members are subject to state social insurance under the procedure established by law.

The management organs, associations (enterprises), and organizations with which cooperatives are associated are responsible for providing social, cultural, and consumer services to cooperative members. They must allow cooperative members to use the services of preventive care establishments, clubs, kindergartens, pioneer camps, and other sociocultural institutions.

Cooperatives' affairs are managed on the basis of broad democracy and the active participation of their members in resolving all questions. A cooperative's supreme management organ is its general meeting, which adopts the cooperative's charter, makes changes and amendments to it, elects a chairman for a term of up to 2 years and a senior auditor (auditing commission), and resolves questions of membership of the cooperative and organizational and other questions of its activity.

The general meeting may resolve questions provided it is attended by not less than two-thirds of the cooperative members. Decisions are taken at the general meeting by a simple majority indicated by a show of hands. A cooperative's charter shall be registered at the local rayispolkom (gorispolkom).

Cooperatives shall be closed down if they break the law or their charter, if the number of cooperative members falls below three, if it proves impossible to carry out the cooperative's activity on the principles of self-financing and self-capitalization, or if the management organ, association (enterprise), or organization with which the cooperatives were associated are closed down.

Cooperatives shall be wound up at the decision of a general meeting of cooperative members or of the local rayispolkom (gorispolkom). Local ispolkoms on whose territory cooperatives are created are tasked with defining the sphere of their production and economic activity, assisting cooperatives in strengthening their material and technical base and in supplying raw and other materials and transport, and widely publicizing their activity among the population.

The USSR Council of Ministers has instructed union republic councils of ministers and the relevant USSR ministries and departments to provide the necessary explanations concerning the procedure under which cooperatives will conduct their financial and economic activity.

REPORTAGE OF KAZAKH TRADE UNION CONGRESS

TRUD Carries Proceedings

PM091605 TRUD in Russian 6 Feb 87 p 2

[V. Gafiatulin, O. Kvyatkovskiy, and N. Kishkin report under the rubric "Trade Union Reports and Elections" and the general heading "The Progress of Restructuring": "Kazakh Trade Union Congress"]

[Text] Alma-Ata -- The congress was held at a complex and crucial moment in the life of the republic. The republic was one of the regions where the phenomena of stagnation which manifested themselves at the turn of the eighties inflicted tangible economic, political, and moral damage. The degradation of cadres, violations of socialist legality, absence of criticism and openness, and other negative phenomena have taken deep root and their elimination will require strenuous efforts. This has been stated in the republic with the utmost frankness.

The congress delegates saw it as their task to find their place in the general effort of restructuring and clearly define the avenues and immediate aims of restructuring. They expressed full support for the decisions of the CPSU Central Committee January Plenum and for the course of firmly establishing order and discipline, eradicating abuses, expanding democracy, and asserting internationalism which has been proclaimed in the republic. Questions of cadre policy occupied a central place in the report, delivered by E. Zhakselekov, chairman of the Kazakh Trade Union Council, and the speeches of many delegates. After all, the success of restructuring will largely depend on the people to whom this work is entrusted.

Yet it is precisely in this crucial area that the Kazakh Trade Union Council allowed serious shortcomings to occur. Cadres were selected hastily and their professional and moral qualities were poorly studied. As a result unproven and sometimes completely unworthy people were assigned to trade union work. Examples were cited. For instance, S. Mostovshchikov, secretary of the Aktyubinsk Oblast Trade Union Council, had to be removed from his post for gross violations of housing legislation for mercenary aims.

It was pointed out at the congress that people tempered in labor collectives and in production are rarely promoted to trade union organs. Often people who have compromised themselves or have not excelled at their previous post have been sent to work in the trade unions. Some of the people thus "promoted" see the transfer to trade union work as a sendoff to well deserved rest.

During the discussion many proposals on ways to improve cadre work were submitted; for instance, organizing on-the-job training in the trade union council apparatus for workers on the [promotion] reserve list, filling vacant posts with people who have proved their worth at grassroots level, organizing cadre exchanges between the center and local organs, and being bolder in promoting nonparty comrades. Certain positive changes have already taken place in the course of the present report and election campaign. Thus more than 600 trade union committee chairmen were not recommended for reelection.

V. Solopov, leader of a team of arc welders at the "Kazakhselmash" Plant, M. Gabdusalimova and M. Chzhen, chairmen of the Guryev and Kokchetav Oblast Trade Union Councils, and other delegates pointedly raised the question of the slow progress of restructuring in trade union work, which is lagging far behind the positive processes taking place in the republic. The activity of many trade union committees is contaminated with formalism and does not focus enough on people. [paragraph continues]

According to the graphic description of N. Zhotabayev, chairman of the Semipalatinsk Oblast Trade Union council, paper is the main method of learning about reality. This is borne out by the following figure cited at the congress. The volume of documents dispatched to organs at local level by the republic committee of the Chemical and Petrochemical Industry Workers Union last year increased by 25 percent.

The need to give up the bureaucratic style of work, to focus on people, to know their cares and needs, and to give them effective help was clearly expressed at the congress. Much is already being done in this respect. Delegates described how, for instance, in the republic committee of the Construction and Construction Materials Industry Workers Union apparatus workers transferred their work to labor collectives as soon as the report and election conference ended and are introducing extramural sessions of the union's presidium. The East Kazakhstan Oblast Trade Union Council has made provision for trade union leaders to report regularly to workers and is sending out to the localities teams to organize courses for trade union cadres after assessing the situation.

Discussing ways to enhance the influence of trade unions on the development of the republic's economy, many delegates, including Sh. Aktauykova, seamstress at Chimkent's "Voskhod" Sewn Goods Factory, V. Matyushkina, milkmaid at Kokchetav Oblast's "Kotyrkolskiy" sovkhoz-tekhnikum, and V. Frash, leader of a team of plasterers at the "Petropavlovskstroy" Trust, above all drew attention to the need to improve the organization of socialist competition and to overcome formalism in this area? It is necessary to bring enthusiasm back into the competition, they said, to ensure genuine competitiveness and combativeness, and to gear the competition to the achievement of high and results. This appeal is already meeting with a response in labor collectives. In the area of nonferrous metallurgy, for instance, 20 enterprises have adopted counterplans for the production of R18 million of additional output this year, and the collective of the "Karagandaugol" Association has pledged to extract 900,000 metric tons of fuel in accordance with its counterplans. The report noted that in the republic as a whole the collectives of 975 enterprises and more than 10,000 teams, sections, and livestock units -- that is, more than 260,000 working people -- have pledged to fulfill their targets for the first 2 years of the 5-year plan by the October jubilee.

It was emphasized at the congress that the work results will depend largely on the successful solution of social problems and the resultant stabilization of labor collectives. The housing problem in the republic is acute. This is not just because not enough has been built. The causes of this problem lie also in the past abuses and gross violations of the regulations governing the allocation of housing. In Alma-Ata, for instance, 80 percent of the housing was allocated out of turn, and the waiting list has not only not diminished in recent years but has even grown longer. We have now put an end to this, M. Moldakhmetov, chairman of the Alma-Ata Trade Union Council, said in his speech. All waiting lists have been checked with the participation of the trade unions and more than 5,000 families which had been included on them in evasion of the law have been crossed off. A decision has been made in the republic to provide housing within a period of 5 years for all the families on the waiting list at the beginning of the current year. The trade unions will strictly monitor the implementation of this decision. Many labor collectives have now actively begun solving the housing problem. The Alma-Ata Machine Tool Building Plant will build six 40-apartment blocks using the own-resources method, with every worker working 6 free days on the construction site.

It was noted at the congress that the efforts of trade union organizations must be channeled into ensuring uninterrupted supplies of the required amount and range of foodstuffs for working people in cities and villages. [paragraph continues]

Apart from more rigorous monitoring of their fair distribution, there is great potential for organizational work on the part of trade union organs and the aktiv in this area. The following figures were cited: There are more than 6,000 labor collectives in the republic, yet only 1,167 subsidiary farms; more than 150,000 families have applied for the allocation of garden plots and are awaiting an answer. This is where the trade unions can show their initiative. It was proposed that they should monitor the construction of vegetable storage and refrigeration facilities and greenhouses. In general, the delegates said, what is needed are clear aims, vigorous efforts, and specific results.

The tone of the delegates' speeches was sharp and critical. However, everyone who mounted the rostrum had a clear idea of the objectives, proposed ways to resolve pressing problems, and clearly understood his place in the common endeavor. Hence the firm confidence that everything that has been outlined will be put into practice.

G.V. Kolbin, first secretary of the Kazakh Communist Party Central Committee, delivered a speech at the congress. The congress was attended by V.G. Lomonosov, deputy chairman of the AUCCTU. The congress elected a new Kazakh Trade Union Council, Auditing Commission, and delegates to the 18th USSR Trade Union Congress.

A plenum of the Kazakh Republic Trade Union Council elected E.M. Zhakselekov as its chairman.

Kolbin Address

PM181531 Alma-Ata KAZAKHSTANSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 1 Feb 87 pp 2-3

[KAZTAG report: "Using Trade Unions' Potential To Promote the Cause of Restructuring and Acceleration"]

[Excerpts] A particularly important role in implementing the course of restructuring and renewal mapped out by the 27th CPSU Congress has been assigned to the trade unions, as the biggest public organization. Their responsibility is increasing substantially in connection with the labor collectives' increased powers and the development of self-management. At the same time, they have extensive duties in resolving social policy tasks and protecting the working people's interests.

The attention of the participants in the 13th Kazakh Trade Union Congress, which ended 31 January, was focused on the propositions and conclusions about this subject which rang out with new force from the rostrum of the recent CPSU Central Committee Plenum. [passage omitted]

In conclusion, the congress was addressed by G.V. Kolbin, first secretary of the Kazakh Communist Party Central Committee. He emphasized that in his report to the CPSU Central Committee January (1987) Plenum M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, examined from a profoundly party-minded standpoint a range of questions connected with restructuring as an objective necessity, the deepening of socialist democracy, the development of the people's self-government, and the party's cadre policy in present conditions. All these vitally important questions were discussed in a broad sociopolitical context, bearing in mind the lessons of the past, the nature of the period through which the party and the country are currently living, and the future tasks.

Proceeding from a realistic standpoint, the plenum openly pointed out the reasons why the country began to lose momentum at a certain stage, when difficulties and unsolved problems began to accumulate and stagnation and other phenomena alien to socialism emerged. Departmentalism, local favoritism, and nationalist tendencies were not always duly rebuffed.

The CPSU Central Committee Plenum made a principled assessment of the utterly monstrous forms of negative processes connected with the degeneration of cadres and violations of socialist legality manifested in certain parts of the country, including a number of Kazakhstan's oblasts and Alma-Ata City.

The plenum noted the exceptionally great importance of the fact that in this situation the party was able to summon up the strength and courage to steer a course of restructuring, to head the restructuring, and to organize revolutionary work aimed at decisively overcoming the phenomena of stagnation and creating a reliable and effective mechanism for the country's accelerated socioeconomic development. There is no alternative to restructuring, we cannot retreat, there is nowhere to retreat to.

The plenum noted that that the ultimate aim of the restructuring is to renew all aspects of our society's life, bestow on socialism the most modern forms of social organization and ensure the fullest possible blossoming of the socialist system's creative potential.

In the light of these demands, the decisive criterion in assessing cadres and their political and civic stance is their attitude to the restructuring and their actual contribution to implementing the tasks of the socioeconomic development of the country as a whole and of each labor collective.

In the light of the tasks set by the party, the role of party and public organizations, economic management organs, and the human factor has to be invested with a new meaning.

Indeed, in our state of the whole people the sociopolitical personal qualities of every individual are being developed increasingly fully, and this process involves the entire population and is constantly expanding and deepening.

Take any area of human activity -- everywhere we see an expansion of rights and their enrichment with new content. This is not just a broadening of scope. In the new conditions the party is setting more complex tasks in the country's socioeconomic development. Rights, which are a reflection of this progress, cannot remain unchanged. In this context the party is now increasingly acutely posing the question of consistently developing democratic forms, expanding self-government, and making the maximum use of the democratic nature of socialism and its vital need to draw on the "creativeness of the masses."

Democracy, as people's power, represents total power of the people over individuals, including individuals who lead, organize, or directly execute the people's will. This idea expressed at the CPSU Central Committee Plenum must be implemented in practice. In this context we must ensure the organic combination of one-man command and collegiatity, which is particularly important in conditions where enterprise, section, shop, and livestock unit managers are to be elected and in conditions where leaders and specialists have to be replaced.

Democracy, as unlimited people's power and the subordination of individuals and the minority to the majority, presupposes extraordinary responsibility on the part of every member of society toward the people. Society, social groups and organizations based on collectivism, comradely cooperation, and mutual assistance not only create the highest type of freedom for man but also demand the highest degree of responsibility on his part.

"When we speak about Soviet society's democratism," Comrade M.S. Gorbachev said at the CPSU Central Committee January (1987) Plenum, "and this is a fundamental question as far as we are concerned, it is pertinent once again to emphasize the main distinguishing feature of socialist democracy. I refer to the organic combination of democracy and discipline, independence and responsibility, and the rights and obligations of officials and all citizens.

"Socialist democracy has nothing in common with total license, irresponsibility, and anarchy. Genuine democracy serves all individuals by protecting their political and social rights, and at the same time serves every collective and society as a whole by defending their interests."

In this context questions of people's moral and political education assume a special importance today in view of the situation which has developed in our republic. The political rights mentioned earlier also imply political obligations, which consist above all in the fact that all of us together must identify and utilize more fully the advantages of our political and state system and not create a deliberately artificial background based on the selfish interests of certain militant individualists. In fact, what usually lies behind this is primarily personal interests: fear of being held responsible for one's actions, or of losing undeserved privileges, or something similar.

Any manifestations of unlawful behavior have always been resolutely rebuffed by all sections of society, by the absolute majority of people of various nationalities and origin. And this has now again been fully confirmed. The high level of the working people's consciousness -- both civic and political -- has made it possible to put in their place people who cannot give up local "bossism" [vozhdizm] and nationalist sentiments and people who have raised their hand against our Soviet reality and tried to slander our political and state system. The reason for these phenomena which are alien to us is that a certain category of people has forgotten their scared obligations to society, has forgotten the Marxist-Leninist tenets about consistent and sustained internationalism and about the strict combination of rights with high social responsibility and obligations.

One of the basic human rights and freedoms is the right to work. The exercise of this right is essential not just to provide material security but also to ensure the all-around development of the individual.

A necessary condition for implementation of the right to work is full employment of the population. Unemployment as a social phenomenon has long since been eliminated in our country. However, problems pertaining to the reinforcement of labor discipline, distribution according to labor, labor education, and the formation of stable labor collectives are at the focus of attention of party and soviet organs.

We proceed from the premise that what is required at local level is a sensible deployment of the available labor resources. Skillful ideological influence and persuasion are required here. It is necessary to combine the interests of society with individual interests. We must find ways to ensure the rational utilization of labor resources and their rational deployment within the framework of the republic and each oblast.

After all, it is well known that that while there is a surplus of labor resources in some regions, others experience a shortage. Displaying flexibility, we must decide where people should be brought to work and where the work should be "brought" to the people. And here we must clearly bear in mind that by bringing people to the work, by uprooting them in one place and transferring them to another, we are causing many complications and difficulties of an economic and social nature. In this case it is necessary to construct additional housing for people when they already had housing in the old place, just as they had their own plot of land and certain additional food resources from their personal subsidiary plot. On the other hand, as a result of the migration of the population from certain agricultural regions we are reducing our potential for developing the food base. Thus the most attractive approach to the rational utilization of labor resources is when we adopt the principle of "bringing work to the people." Wherever there are surplus labor resources, it is necessary to construct subsidiaries of industrial enterprises on kolkhozes and sovkhozes with the status of shops to fulfill industrial orders during off-peak periods in agriculture. This kind of approach has proved its worth in a number of oblasts in the Ukraine and the RSFSR and we must make extensive use of it.

The 27th CPSU Congress approved our party's program, which sets out the demands made on labor education.

In this context the following question arises: Are we doing enough to ensure the requisite educational standard of school graduates? Sadly, we must admit that we have not solved this problem and that the school reform which is under way is so far weighted toward expenditure, so to speak. We create jobs and carry the cost of training students in a particular trade, but more often than not we instill in schoolchildren a purely platonic love of work. Because school graduates seemingly often do not take up the chosen trade. This does not meet the state's interests.

It would be correct to get to work everywhere now to ensure that every young person starts his or her career with a job on a kolkhoz of sovkhoz or at a factory of plant, that is, directly in the production area where material assets are created. It is no secret that the Leninist demand that everyone undergo the necessary labor and class tempering has begun to be devalued in recent years. More and more often you hear young people saying "I want" or "I need" and less and less often "I must" or "it is my duty." This is the result of serious flaws in the education of young people, where we have somehow depreciated responsibility to society while extolling the right to the choice of profession granted under the constitution. Rights must be granted, but it is also necessary to sharply turn toward instilling in all our people a high level of responsibility regarding the fulfillment of their duties to society and it must be made clear to everyone that he will lose his rights if he forgets his obligations or if there is evidence of a striving for "boundless" democracy bordering on anarchy.

While taking care to develop citizens' rights and freedoms in every way, we must at the same time pay due attention to the problems of strengthening responsibility and discipline and ensuring the strict observance by everyone of his obligations to society. It is precisely citizens' responsible approach to their obligations and to the interests of the people which provides the only reliable basis for the fullest possible realization of the principles of socialist democratism.

The question of labor resources in rural areas is an acute problem at the moment. Every year more than 16,000 combine operators from other republics are brought to Kazakhstan to help with the harvest. We must refrain from this practice. [paragraph continues]

We must constantly bear in mind the words of M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, in the Central Committee Political Report to the 27th CPSU Congress to the effect that if you get down to the nitty-gritty, there are no problems with labor resources.

Indeed, there should be no shortages not just in cities but also in the countryside if resources are utilized correctly. After all, all the calculations concerning labor resources in the countryside are based on the peak load during spring field work. And if the demand for labor resources is fully met today, that is, if the manpower shortange is eliminated, as farm leaders are demanding, then, inevitably, during the winter period there are surpluses. And hence the low wages, low material resources, the turnover of cadres, and the destabilization of collectives. Why should there be a "peak" period only in summer? We must achieve an even level of employment of people on kolkhozes and sovkhozes irrespective of the time of year. To this end we must use the winter period for construction work, developing the direct labor method in every possible way and giving priority to the construction of housing and social amenities. And during the spring field work season we must channel all our efforts into performing the entire volume of work. Flexibility, the ability to maneuver, the ability to focus on what is most important at any given moment and to single out the main issues -- these must become the indispensable features of every leader's style of work. V.I. Lenin said: "If policy demands resolute change, flexibility, or a skillful switch -- leaders must understand this."

This fully applies to those who must form stable labor collectives, above all in the agro-industrial complex. The most important point in resolving the tasks of the social development of the countryside is the retention of cadres on farms. And that means that in one case priority must be given to the construction of housing, in another, to the construction of kindergartens, and in yet another, to the construction of roads, to eliminating everything that causes people's dissatisfaction and compels them to move away, to migrate in search of better conditions for their children's and their own general educational and cultural development.

The process of establishing stable labor collectives at industrial enterprises, at construction organizations, and in the agro-industrial complex can be managed. It is a task that can be solved; all that is required is an intelligent approach and systematic work geared to end results. We cannot "leave this to chance." We must be masters of the situation as regards the solution of the problem of distributing labor resources in accordance with the needs of the national economy, and that means ensuring its balanced development and precluding disproportions. Of course, all the problems caused by population migration and the shortage of labor resources in individual sectors and enterprises can be explained by people's right to choose their job, and this is exactly what was done for many years. However, we must put this right now.

The rights to political freedoms, to a choice of profession, to work, and to leisure without obligation to society will sooner or later lead to dangerous complacency. And complacency, in the words of the great Kazakh thinker and educator Abay, "leads to ruin, impoverishment of the mind, and unseemly behavior."

Under socialism an obligation expresses a social need and nationwide interests rather than the whim of an individual or a small group. Therefore in our republic, just as in the country as a whole, people are not divided into responsible and irresponsible people (even if a person has behaved irresponsible in some respect), or into people who are free and others who are not, since all have not only rights but also certain obligations.

It was noted at the congress that it is precisely this that we must bear in mind wherever there is evidence of a one-sided approach which infringes the dialectical unity of citizens' rights and obligations. And we must take resolute steps against people who allow such distorted interpretations of Marxism-Leninism and tolerate such flaws. To tolerate such defects in the development of our society is to artificially diminish the advantages of our political and state system over all other social systems. We will not allow this to happen because there can be no compromise where ideology is concerned.

The party has always acted in the role of teacher, educator, and adviser in respect of the working people. V.I. Lenin said: "First of all we must use persuasion, and only then can we use compulsion. At all costs we must first use persuasion, and only then use compulsion."

When we talk about compelling people to fulfill their obligations to society, this must be understood as a forced measure with regard to those who are insufficiently educated and do not comply with the norms of conduct accepted by society. It is difficult to talk about this with equanimity. "Anyone can be polite when things are going well," Bernard Shaw once said. And we are talking about the selfsame thing today, about the combination of citizens' rights and obligations.

In the style of party work there are forms and methods of influencing people, and the management of our society's development is not something ossified and immutable. The appropriate methods of work are defined in accordance with the situation and the times.

At the time of the establishment of Soviet power, when hunger and devastation reigned in the country, party decisions took the form of military orders, and then, as our society developed and socialism became firmly established, persuasion was used to an ever increasing degree. World War II brought changes -- rigorousness and high responsibility on the part of every Communist and every citizen of our country for the work entrusted to them formed the basis of all our work.

In recent times persuasion has been the main method used in the work of party, Soviet, trade union, and all other organs. And we must religiously adhere to this approach in our work with people.

The decisions of the 27th CPSU Congress and the CPSU Central Committee January (1987) Plenum were dictated by the need to further deepen democratism, develop people's self-management, and expand the social base of Soviet democracy. However, wherever persuasion proves not sufficiently effective, we can and must apply methods of compulsion to people who stubbornly refuse to accept the norms of socialist communal life and the norms of social justice for the sake of which the Great October Socialist Revolution, whose 70th anniversary we are marking this year, was carried out.

We cannot tolerate the fact that in recent years young people have been drawn toward laboratories, for example, or scientific research institutes and the management apparatus rather than toward the area of material production. They are irresistibly drawn toward science, although many are not drawn there by a vocation, their motives are quite different -- a good material income, the absence of proper demands as regards discipline in connection with the fact that measuring the labor contribution is virtually impossible, and better housing and consumer facilities. An important role here is played also by the respectful attitude to science and scientific workers which has become established in our country.

Again, this reminds me of the great Abay who said: "If your soul is thirsting after other things and you are studying science in order to attain them, then your attitude to science resembles that of a stepmother toward her stepchild. Science has to be loved with the love of a mother for her own son. Only then will science reciprocate and become more accessible. Education must not be an end in itself. This leads to rivalry between people and engenders unnecessary, stupid bragging. All of these are damaging to both science and society."

We must constantly remember that the great gain of October -- the broad rights and freedoms which it brought citizens -- must be combined with the interests of the socialist society which we have created, with its dynamic and balanced development, with its protection against possible encroachments by enemies in both the economic and military areas. After all, everyone accepts that our country's citizens conscientiously carry out their military duty wherever the interests of the cause require it. Therefore we ought also to accept that, using methods of ideological persuasion, we must influence people in their choice of profession in specific sectors of the national economy and persuade them that there is no absolute freedom subordinated to narrow individual interests in isolation from the interests of society, nor can there be. The interests of the individual and the interests of society are indivisible.

The right to work is organically connected with distribution according to labor. The USSR Constitution guarantees the right to work and to a remuneration of labor according to the quantity and quality of labor. Fair distribution relations and the strictest supervision of the measure of labor and the measure of consumption are constantly at the focus of our party's attention. These principles are violated by parasites, speculators, and thieves who have gotten used to living on unearned income and by shirker, slackers, and slipshod workers whose philosophy is "the less society gets, the more I get." They all feed on society, live at the expense of conscientious workers, and thus trample on our values.

Where are the origins of this phenomenon? Its objective causes go back a long way; they were engendered by capitalist private ownership, which over the decades fostered a private-ownership mentality. And although socialism established social ownership of the means of production and thus destroyed the social basis of private ownership phenomena, it is not easy to change people's mentality -- according to V.I. Lenin, that is a complex and lengthy process. Relapses into a mentality which is alien to us occur, as a rule, in conditions of laxity, protectionism, nepotism, total license, indulgence, connivance, and a passive stance on the part of party, soviet, and trade union organizations.

The Kazakh Communist Party Central Committee, with the support of all soviet, trade union, Komsomol, and economic organs, is now waging a struggle against all kinds of abuses and parasitic elements, of which there are quite a few.

In January alone 280 parasites, vagrants, alcoholics, and drug addicts were identified in Alma-Ata. Their names were taken down and they were officially cautioned. An even greater number was sent for compulsory treatment.

A very precise task has been set in the struggle against crime. All parasitic elements are to be removed from the capital of the republic and oblast centers by 1 March. To this end 2,500 mobile groups have been set up in the republic. Their task is to detain all people who are in a state of intoxication, to ensure order in the streets and public places, and to assist the militia in dealing with crimes.

However, much remains to be done in the struggle against crime. The main task is to mobilize the entire public and all labor collectives for this work. The aim is to create a situation where drunkards, parasites, drug addicts, and criminals are afraid of people and not vice versa.

The Central Committee was forced to make great demands on leaders at various levels whose children lead parasitic lives, are badly brought up, deviate from the norms of socialist communal life, and have taken to the road of hooligan behavior and illegal actions.

As a practical result of the decisions of the 27th CPSU Congress and the CPSU Central Committee April Plenum, a Law on Measures To Step Up the Struggle Against Unearned Income was adopted in the country. Financial organs are now exposing gross violations of staff discipline at practically every enterprise where checks have been carried out. At the "Abayskaya" and Kalinin mines Komsomol secretaries were paid the wages of a class 1 duty fitter and hoist mechanic, respectively. At the "Alma-Atapromstroy" Trust No. 24, 25, and 35 Construction and Installation Administrations drivers of official cars featured in the books as two fitters and a welder with salaries of R210 each. The deputy commander of the Alma-Ata city student construction detachments headquarters receives the salary of a "Gortyazhstroy" construction and installation administration foreman. In the system of the republic Ministry of Trade, cadre inspectors in oblast administrations and trade organizations are paid as departmental foremen or commodity specialists.

By the beginning of the spring it is necessary to "unearth" all the "moles" and to fine the leaders who fostered them so that they feel the pinch in their own pockets.

The construction of prestigious country houses, "hunting" lodges, and all kind of guesthouses for leading officials which has become the practice in the republic in recent years is nothing but a consequence of lack of discipline and brazen violation of the norms of social justice. Millions of rubles have been spent in order to "sweeten" the leisure hours of leadership staff. This is the result of an intoxication with power, a loss of self-control, and the chance to spend funds from the state coffers in order to indulge a high-ranking leader and his immediate servile and depraved entourage. These illegally built facilities are now being confiscated and handed over for use as health care and child care establishments.

For instance, the Alma-Ata Gorispolkom leisure center has been handed over for the organization of a young pioneer camp which will provide recreation for about 300 schoolchildren per season.

Much has to be done to strengthen labor discipline. Social justice is violated not only by top personnel, but also by many people from the mass professions working in the actual material production sphere. Absenteeism, unpunctuality, idle time -- all this is still not being strictly assessed in worker collectives. Poor use is being made of the Law on Labor Collectives. At meetings to discuss violators of labor discipline it is usually leaders who speak, not work comrades. Deviations from the standards of sobriety are still not being resolutely rebuffed.

Recently there was a plenary session of the Republican Council of the Sobriety Society which referred for discussion by the general public a proposal on measures to further step up the struggle against wine consumption and on the need for unfortunate family members to work off fines and compensate for the damage to the family budget. We must make sure that everyone clearly understands that punishment in the form of a fine is not a desire on the part of the state to reduce the family income. No. [paragraph continues]

The intention is to put a stop to the reckless actions of a breadwinner who is squandering the family funds on alcohol, losing his dignity and the respect of society, and having to pay fines for appearing drunk in public places. It is necessary to make sure that in all collectives the commissions to combat drunkenness created under soviet organs invite such sorry breadwinners and adult members of their families to a meeting and tell them to compensate for the damage they have done to their families through compulsory participation in physical work: unloading freight cars, cleaning streets and railroad tracks, improving urban amenities and other work on days off and holidays and after their main work. Let every drunkard know that there will be a severe moral punishment as well as a financial penalty.

While displaying concern for improving material well-being, we must always take pains to foster reasonable requirements in people and combat unreasonable requirements. Let there be no complaints from those who have made unreasonable demands their personal business and who say: I do as I please, I spend my money the way I want. That will not happen. Indeed, it must not.

In present-day conditions leaders if trade union bodies have a big part to play in solving production and social questions, developing competition, strengthening discipline and order, educating people, and establishing social justice. They must act vigorously as custodians of justice in allocating scarce foodstuffs, housing, and other benefits.

Of late the republic's party organizations have been making an immense effort to improve food supplies for the population. Some positive changes are taking place. But leaders of trade union committees remain, as it were, nonparticipants in the solution of these problems. They stand on the sidelines. And this is simply intolerable.

Trade union bodies are supposed to protect working people's interests. Of course, some people may wonder: Protected from whom? For instance, in a capitalist society it is clear that working people's interests have to be protected from capitalists, from exploitation. But from whom here? There is an urgent need for trade union organs to play the part of the most vigorous protectors of people from bureaucrats and those leaders who are only interested in fulfilling the indicators for which they are held responsible by a higher authority. It has to be said that the vast majority of leaders have become accustomed to the experience of supervision and demands from above, but they have ceased to be accountable to their subordinates and to heed their appeals and demands. The result is a large discrepancy between the development of the production potential and the solution of social questions. It has also resulted in a lag in the construction of housing and children's establishments and halfhearted involvement by industrial enterprises in the solution of food tasks.

Or take housing allocation. How can it be that during the 11th 5-Year Plan 80 percent of new housing in Alma-Ata was allocated out of turn? The vast majority of leaders found, so to speak, a "way out" by all setting out to build housing which would not be subject to allocation according to the waiting list: hostels and apartments for small families. A determined effort must be made to stop this and remove the glaring injustice in the area of housing allocation.

The success of restructuring will be determined to a decisive extent by how quickly and profoundly all our cadres, cadres at all levels, without exception, grasp the need for revolutionary changes and how resolutely, vigorously, and competently they act. This party demand obliges us all to act without delay everywhere, at all levels of leadership and management.

The Kazakh Trade Union Council and all its local subdivisions must do all they can, by establishing social justice, to develop our socialist community and confirm the advantages of its social and political system and, by making full use of it for the benefit of working people and in everyone's interests, do everything to ensure that people have a sense right now of the beneficial course of restructuring. [passage omitted]

New Officials Elected

LD021045 Alma-Ata Domestic Service in Russian 1500 GMT 31 Jan 87

[Text] The 13th congress of the trade unions of Kazakhstan ended its work today in Alma-Ata. The concluding speech was delivered by Comrade Kolbin, first secretary of the Kazakh Communist Party Central Committee. A resolution was unanimously adopted in which the delegates, on behalf of the working people of the republic, expressed full support for and approval of the party's internal and external policies, and the practical activity of its Central Committee in implementing the decisions of the 27th CPSU Congress and of the April and subsequent plenums of the CPSU Congress and of the April and subsequent plenums of the CPSU Central Committee. They gave assurances that the trade union organizations of Kazakhstan will give still wider scope to work on implementing the party's strategic course aimed at accelerating the country's social and economic development. The congress elected a new membership of the Kazakh republic Trade Unions Council, and an Auditing Commission. A plenum of the Kazakh republic Trade Unions Council was held, as elected by the 13th congress of the trade unions of Kazakhstan. Organizational issues were examined. Comrade (Zhetkilekov) was elected chairman and member of the Presidium of the KASSR Trade Unions Council. Comrades (Zelyunkov), (Lenshin), (Chetverykova), (Chubov), (Chulanov), and (Solometov) were elected secretaries and members of the Presidium of the KASSR Trade Unions Council. At a meeting of the Auditing Commission, elected by the 13th congress of the trade unions of Kazakhstan, Comrade (Zhurikov) was elected chairman.

METALLURGICAL WORKERS TU CONGRESS OPENS 26 JAN

PM021035 Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA in Russian 27 Jan 87 p 2

[O. Buzuluk report: "Metallurgists Trade Union Congress"]

[Text] The 13th Metallurgical Industry Workers Trade Union Congress opened in Moscow 26 January. The report by I. Kostyukov, chairman of the sector trade union's Central Committee, and the delegates' speeches analyze the state of affairs in ferrous and nonferrous metallurgy in the light of the 27th CPSU Congress decisions, criticize shortcomings, and reveal unutilized reserves.

The congress is devoting special attention to the transfer of the sector's enterprises to state acceptance of output and to work under conditions of self-financing. It is pointed out that trade union committees are still far from everywhere placing this work under constant public control. The same also applies to the further improvement of the social infrastructure and the resolution of the tasks of the comprehensive "Health" program.

Participating in the work of the metallurgists trade union congress are V.I. Dolgikh, candidate member of the Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee; G. G. Vedernikov, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers; V.G. Lomonosov, deputy chairman of the AUCCTU; and senior officials of the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Council of Ministers, ministries, and departments.

FURTHER REPORTAGE ON PROGRESS OF SPACE FLIGHT

Geophysical Survey Begins

LD201101 Moscow TASS in English 1020 GMT 20 Feb 87

[Text] Moscow February 20 TASS -- A TASS correspondent reports from the Mission Control Centre:

Yuriy Romanenko and Aleksandr Laveykin went into third week of their flight.

The cosmonauts have nearly completed work at the unmanned transport spacecraft, Progress-27. They placed supplies in a base unit and are filling the empty bay with used equipment. The power unit of the Mir station has been refuelled with fuel and oxidizer.

Today the crew starts geophysical surveying consisting of two series of visual observations of certain regions on earth. Other activities include cleaning the living quarters and physical exercises. Time was allocated for recreation and a tv session. In the evening the power system of the Progress 27 cargo spacecraft will be used to make corrections of the orbit of the manned complex.

The Mir station has been in near earth space for one year now. According to reports of the crew and telemetry information, all systems are functioning normally.

Cosmonauts Yuriy Romanenko and Aleksandr Laveykin feel well.

Progress-27 Separates From Mir

LD231409 Moscow TASS in English 1351 GMT 23 Feb 87

[Text] Moscow February 23 TASS -- A TASS special correspondent reports from the Mission Control Centre:

The unmanned transport space ship Progress-27 separated from the orbital complex Mir at 14:29 of Moscow time today after the completion of the joint flight programme. The process of undocking and departure of the space ship was controlled by experts of the Mission Control Centre and cosmonauts Yuriy Romanenko and Aleksandr Laveykin.

During the joint flight all the planned operations, including unloading, refuelling of the station and transfer of drinking water have been completed. Two orbit corrections of the complex have been done by means of the propulsion system of the cargo ship Progress-27.

Today the cosmonauts are busy attending to the maintenance of the station and preparation of the equipment for forthcoming research and exploration. The flight is proceeding normally. Both cosmonauts are in good health and feel well.

Technology Experiments Conducted

LD241105 Moscow World Service in English 0800 GMT 24 Feb 87

[Text] Soviet cosmonauts Yuriy Romanenko and Aleksandr Laveykin, who arrived at the orbital Mir station more than 2 weeks ago, are starting technological experiments. According to their monitoring center, they are engaged in fixing installations for the production of superclean semiconducting materials and alloys that are impossible to obtain on Earth. Soviet designers intend to build (?many) productions to be housed by space modules. As soon as such productions are ready the modules will be dispatched to dock to the MIR station.

Erosion Studies Begun

LD251335 Moscow World Service in English 1200 GMT 25 Feb 87

[Text] The two Soviet cosmonauts, Yuriy Romanenko and Aleksandr Laveykin, working on the Mir orbiting station have actually begun a new stage in using that space laboratory in the interests of the national economy. The station is being used to observe the dynamics of the natural environment on vast territories of the Soviet Union. This is necessary to register [as heard] swampy lands and lands subjected to erosion and also to obtain exact information about the natural resources and the agricultural potential of some of the regions. The cosmonauts have already conducted a series of observations for that purpose over the mountainous and steppe regions of Soviet Central Asia.

Progress-27 Completes Flight

LD251839 Moscow TASS in English 1812 GMT 25 Feb 87

[Text] Moscow February 25 TASS -- A TASS special correspondent reports from the mission control centre:

The flight of the automatic transport spaceship Progress-27, which was put into a near-earth orbit on January 16 this year, has been completed.

Today, the transport spaceship was oriented in space according to commands from the mission control centre and then its propulsion engine was switched on at 18:17 Moscow time. As a result of braking, the spaceship Progress-27 was put into a descent trajectory, entered the thick layers of the atmosphere and ceased to exist.

Yuriy Romanenko and Aleksandr Laveykin are continuing work on board the manned complex MIR (peace). In the past days they were mainly busy checking and preparing scientific equipment for operation. Tomorrow they are to carry out a series of geophysical exploration, including the photography of some areas of the earth's surface and start technical and technological experiments.

Both cosmonauts are in good health and feel well. The flight of the orbital complex is proceeding normally.

OFFICIAL VIEWS NUCLEAR ENERGY PROSPECTS

LD181616 Moscow TASS in English 1517 GMT 18 Feb 87

[Text] Moscow February 18 TASS -- The construction of a nuclear power station with a 800 megawatt fast neutron reactor has been started in the Soviet Union, a TASS correspondent was told by Andranik Petrosyants, chairman of the USSR State Committee for the Ultilisation of Atomic Energy. These reactors, he said, will make the basis of a new family of nuclear power stations, whose unit capacity can be increased to reach sixteen hundred megawatt.

Giving an evaluation of the future potentialities of the now existing slow neutron reactors, Petrosyants pointed in particular to the fact that the use in them of fissionable isotope -- uran-235 is very low, a little more than one percent. It must be noted that in natural uranium the content of that isotope is only 0.7 percent. the bulk of natural uranium is made up of uranium 238, which is not fissionable due to the effect of slow neutrons.

Yet, the Soviet scientist noted, physicists have found a method of using up whole uranium as nuclear fuel and not only its small part in the form of isotope 235. This aim is served by fast reactors their active zone is engirdled with a so-called reproduction zone, into which non-fissionable uranium -238 is charged. Fast neutron reactors can not only generate energy but also procure enough fuel for the future. It is not fortuitous that such reactors are also called breeders, Petrosyants said.

He explained that the working of very poor uranium fields and the extraction of uranium in not too distant future even from...oceanic water becomes economically feasible. Considering that it can be believed that nuclear power engineering will be able to meet mankind's requirements for hundreds of years.

The scientist recalled that the first nuclear plant with fast neutron reactor Bor-60 was launched in the city of Dimitrovgrad on the Volga in 1969. An experimental commercial nuclear power plant with "fast" reactor BN-350 has been operative in the city of Shevchanko on the coast of the Caspian Sea since 1973. In 1980 the Beloyarsk nuclear plant with a similar 600 megawatt reactor was put on stream on 1980.

In the future, Petrosyants said, the fast neutron reactors will completely assume the functions for production of plutonium for its new prototypes and even for nuclear power plants running on thermal neutrons. The storage of such fuel will even a little outstrip the requirements. And then, roughly by the year of 2020 it will be necessary to extract only 50 percent of the plutonium than if we had at our disposal only thermal neutron reactors.

COVERAGE OF ARMY, NAVY DAY OBSERVANCE

Sokolov Order Published

PM251447 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 22 Feb 87 First Edition p 1

[USSR Defense Minister's Order of the Day No 65, dated Moscow, 22 February 1987]

[Text] Comrades soldiers and sailors, sergeants and petty officers!

Comrade warrant officers and ensigns!

Comrade officers, generals, and admirals!

Comrade veterans of the Great Patriotic War and of the USSR Armed Forces!

On 23 February our motherland is marking the 69th anniversary of the Soviet Army and Navy. Born of Great October, created and reared by the Communist Party, the USSR Armed Forces are reliably ensuring the Soviet people's peaceful labor and our country's security and discharging their international duty with honor.

The working people of the Soviet Union and army and navy servicemen are celebrating this holiday in an atmosphere of a general political and labor upsurge, of persistent struggle for the successful implementation of the strategic course elaborated by the CPSU Central Committee April (1985) Plenum and the 27th CPSU Congress, and of positive changes in the country's economic and social development. The decisions of the CPSU Central Committee January (1987) Plenum produced a new surge of strength and creative energy. Socialist competition in honor of the 70th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Competition is taking place throughout the country.

The Soviet Union is firmly and consistently implementing its Leninist foreign policy; it was the first country in the world to present a real program for delivering mankind from the nuclear threat and has proposed specific measures for the development of international relations on the principles of equality and universal security. In the present complex international situation the bellicose U.S. imperialist circles and their NATO allies are trying to wreck the military-strategic parity and achieve nuclear superiority. The Communist Party and the Soviet Government will take the measures necessary to build up the country's economic potential as fast as possible and to maintain its defense capability at the requisite level.

The USSR Armed Forces, utterly devoted to the Communist Party and the Soviet people, are constantly improving their military skills and combat readiness. In single combat formation with the armies of the Warsaw Pact member states, they vigilantly guard the gains of socialism. The Soviet people may firmly rely on the fact that no aggressive forces will be able to catch us unawares.

Comrade servicemen of the Army and Navy!

Comrade veterans of the Great Patriotic War and of the USSR Armed Forces!

I congratulate you on the nationwide holiday -- Soviet Army and Navy Day. I wish the personnel of the USSR Armed Forces new successes in combat and political training, in maintaining a high standard of military discipline and organization, in improving their ideological and moral education, and in mastering modern weapons and combat hardware.

To mark the 69th anniversary of the Soviet Army and Navy I order:

That a festive fireworks display take place 23 February 1987, at 2100 local time, in the capital of our motherland, the hero-city of Moscow; the union republic capitals, the hero-cities of Leningrad, Volgograd, Odessa, Sevastopol, Novorossiysk, Karch, Tula, Smolensk, and Murmansk; the hero-fortress of Brest; and also the cities of Kaliningrad, Lvov, Rostov-na-Donu, Kuybyshev, Sverdlovsk, Novosibirsk, Chita, Khabarovsk, Vladivostok, and Severomorsk.

Long live the 69th anniversary of the Soviet Army and Navy!

Long live the heroic Soviet people and their valiant Armed Forces!

Glory to the CPSU -- the inspirer and organizer of all our victories!

Marshal of the Soviet Union S. Sokolov, USSR defense minister

Moscow Anniversary Meeting

LD202136 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1600 GMT 20 Feb 87

[Text] A ceremonial meeting of representatives of the working people of Moscow and the servicemen of the capital's garrison, devoted to the 69th anniversary of the Soviet Army and Navy, took place in Moscow today. In the Presidium of the meeting were: Yeltsin, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Moscow Gorkom; Marshal of the Soviet Union Sokolov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR minister of defense; Lukyanov, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee; Vagris, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium; and managers from a number of ministries and departments, military chiefs, and representatives from party, local soviet, and public organizations, war veterans, and labor veterans.

Army General Maksimov, USSR deputy defense-minister, made a speech at the meeting.

General Tretyak TV Speech

LD231955 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1515 GMT 23 Feb 87

[Video talk by Army General Ivan Moiseyevich Tretyak, USSR deputy defense minister and chief inspector of the armed forces, Army and Navy Day -- live or recorded]

[Text] Dear comrades, 23 February is written in golden letters into the heroic history of our homeland as a nationwide holiday, the day of the Soviet Army and Navy.

It was established in memory of the beginning of the mass mobilization of working people in defense of the socialist fatherland and in honor of the first combat successes of the young Red Army and Red Fleet units and detachments of the Republic of the Soviets in 1918.

Today our country is marking the holiday on the eve of the first anniversary of the 27th CPSU congress which drew up a strategy for accelerating the country's socioeconomic development and strengthening international security and peace on earth. The past year has shown that the restructuring of all areas of life has begun with no turning back in Soviet society -- a struggle to reach a qualitatively new level in the development of the national economy. As the January 1987 plenum of the party Central Committee stressed, the political course of the 27th congress and the practical work of the party to implement it, has received powerful support from communists and the entire Soviet people. The inspired and selfless work of millions of Soviet people, servicemen of the Army and Navy, and the patriot movement that has been launched on a wide-scale for a fitting run-up to the 70th Anniversary of Great October are a pledge for this. The search and approval of new and more effective methods of management, democratizing society, enhancing military might, high social optimism, the achievements of the Soviet people, the increasing revolutionary reforms in the economic, social and spiritual areas -- all that is by rights our pride -- has become possible thanks to the tireless concern of the Communist Party for the defense of the socialist fatherland. Created with the sole aim of protecting the revolutionary gains from enemies and upholding the Soviet Government, the glorious Army and Navy continues to this day to fulfill this historic mission with honor and merit. Time has confirmed graphically and convincingly Vladimir Ilich Lenin's general graphically and convincingly Vladimir Ilich Lenin's general conclusion that any revolution is only worth something if it is capable of defending itself.

After the victorious end of the civil war, our people had an opportunity to concentrate their efforts on peaceful economic and cultural construction. In the conditions of hostile capitalist surroundings there were two main tasks facing our party and people: building socialism and ensuring its defenses. But history assigned us little time and we did not manage to do everything to prepare to repulse aggression from the most reactionary striking power of imperialism -- German facism. At that time, in the threatening 1941, a deadly danger loomed over our homeland. Would the Soviet state survive or not? That was the question at stake.

Our people, the Armed Forces, under the leadership of Lenin's Party gave a simpler answer to it. The Soviet people responded as one man to the party's appeal: Our cause is right; The enemy will be crushed; Victory will be ours! The first months of the war convincingly showed the whole world that the Red Army and Navy were capable of standing the most difficult tests. Leaning on the support of the people they held in check an armed onslaught from the strongest imperialist alliance, and then, having seized the strategic initiative, crushing blows were dealt out near Moscow, Stalingrad, and Leningrad, in the Caucasus, and on the Kursk bulge, in the Ukraine, Belorussia, on the Vistula and Oder which led to the capitulation of Hitler's Germany.

In our country veterans of the armed forces command huge respect. They gave up the best years of their lives, and many of them gave up consciously the whole of their lives as well, to the difficult and noble cause of serving the socialist fatherland in the ranks of its defenders. And today, marking the 69th anniversary of the Soviet Army and Navy we express the highest words of thanks and gratitude to the veterans, the living bearers of the glorious revolutionary fighting the labor traditions.

The results of the Great Patriotic War are a stern and unforgettable lesson of history. They are convincing testimony to the strength and the indestructibility of socialism and a terrible warning to the aggressive circles of imperialism and to various lovers of adventures. Their historic significance lies in the fact that it is essential to struggle against war before it breaks out.

The Soviet state has stood and continues to stand for peace. Socialism and peace are indivisible. Our country has never been the first to use weapons, nor will it be the first to do so. That is alien to the policy of the Soviet state and runs counter to the convictions of Soviet people. And if we are strengthening our defense and improving our armed forces, we are doing this because we are compelled to do so, compelled in the past and compelled at the present time. It is the real danger of aggression that has compelled us and that is compelling us to do this.

The bosses of the military-industrial complex of the United States are striving at all costs to break the military strategic parity, to achieve nuclear superiority over the Soviet Union by means of the SDI and to secure for themselves dominating positions in order to dictate American terms and the American will to other peoples.

Further convincing evidence of this is the second nuclear explosion carried out this year at the testing ground in the state of Nevada. These explosions cannot be viewed other than as a challenge to commonsense, a challenge to the will of the world community which has demanded that they join the Soviet moratorium on nuclear tests.

Under these conditions the CPSU Central Committee and the Soviet Government, seeking to bring about a lowering in the level of military confrontation, are doing everything necessary to maintain the country's defense capability and the armed forces' combat readiness at the proper level. We know with whom we are dealing. Our country today is capable of solving any scientific and technical task and will never allow military superiority to be established over it, either on the earth or in space. Retribution will follow inevitably.

Thanks to the concern of the party and the efforts of the whole people our armed forces have received further development. They have been equipped with the most modern weapons and military equipment. They have at their disposal qualified command, political, and engineering and technical cadres and remarkable personnel. More than 90 percent of officers are communists and members of the Komsomol. More then 70 percent of officers have higher military and specialized military education. Almost the whole of our command personnel are obtaining the relevant qualification of engineer.

Soviet service personnel have displayed exceptional tenacity and patriotism in fulfilling important government tasks, including those in connection with eliminating the consequences of the accident at the Chernobyl AES and giving help to the population in areas which have suffered from natural disasters. They continue to fulfill, courageously and worthily, their international duty on the soil of friendly Afghanistan.

At the present time restructuring is taking place in the Army and Navy as it is throughout the country. This finds embodiment in improvements in the style of work of military cadres, in intensified party influence upon all aspects of the life of the military collectives and in some raising of qualitative results in the teaching and educational process.

Komsomol members and all young service personnel have joined actively in the competition to meet the 20th congress of the Leninist Komsomol in a worthy was. All the efforts of commanders, headquarters and political bodies are aimed at ensuring that the combat potential of the Soviet Armed Forces continues to consist in a durable fusion of military skill, technical provising at a high level, ideological steadfastness, organization and discipline of personnel, and loyalty to patriotic and internationalist duty.

Unfortunately, however, the process of restructuring has not yet affected everyone, nor is it taking place on the scale and at the rate we would like. We expected more. For the present the level of results from the measures that have been taken continues to remain insufficient. The leadership of the Ministry of Defense: is aware that the revolutionary character of restructuring is primarily made manifest in what is done. If there are no positive end results, then there is no lofty appraisal of the workers. We still have a great deal to do in order to completely fulfill the demands of the party's Central Committee regarding the radical strengthening of military discipline, ensuring that officers set a personal example, and that they become genuinely close to people. Considerable efforts are also required to build up the higher educational establishment potential, the level of which determines to a large extent the quality of training of military cardres.

It was noted at the January plenum of the Central Committee that the Central Committee relies firmly upon army cadres and the Soviet officer corps in solving the task of strengthening the state's defense capability. I am confident that in the present complex international conditions the communists and all cadres of the army and navy will act with the greatest responsibility and raise and further improve the skill and the combat readiness of all arms of the services. There can be no doubt that this hope and this trust will be justified by the officer cadres in what they do. It can only be done by deeds, it can only be done by persistent military labor. A great deal of work lies ahead in order for the word given to the party and the people to be kept.

Soviet service personnel, brought up in a spirit of limitless dedication to the Communist Party, the socialist homeland, and their own people, true to revolutionary and military traditions, stand guard reliably over the peaceful creative labor of the country of the soviets. They are meeting the 69th anniversary of the Soviet Army and Navy with new achievements in combat and political training. Inspired by the historic decisions of the 27th congress of the party, the soldiers of the army and the navy state: We will carry out the decisions of the 27th CPSU congress. With our selfless labor we will mark the 70th Anniversary of the Great October Revolution. In a single combat formation with the service personnel of the armies of the member-states of the Warsaw Pact, they maintain combat readiness at a high level and are always ready to fulfill their patriotic and internationalist duty completely and with honor upon the first command of their homeland.

I greet you on your holiday, dear friends and comrades in arms!

Yefimov Radio Address

LD231239 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0915 GMT 23 Feb 87

[Address by Marshal Aleksandr Nikolayevich Yefimov from the Moscow studio on 23 February -- live or recorded]

[Text] [Yefimov] Esteemed comrades, in the heroic history of the Soviet state there are many memorable dates that arouse special pride. They include the birthday of the Soviet Army and Navy, which are 69 years old today. We note with special pride that the birth and evolution of the Soviet Army and Navy, and their entire lives, are inseparably linked with the name of Vladimir Ilich Lenin and the activity of the Communist Party. Vladimir Ilich Lenin taught us that all revolutions have value only if they know how to defend themselves. With a strong Red Army we are invincible, he stressed. Between the day they were created and 1945, the Soviet Armed Forces spent about 10 years in battles and campaigns, upholding the honor and independence of the socialist fatherland.

A special place in the history of the Soviet state and its armed forces is held by the great fatherland war -- a battle unprecedented in history in its scale and bitterness, fought against the most reactionary strike force of imperialism, Nazi fascism. It fully revealed the superiority of the Soviet Armed Forces, which brilliantly carried out more than 50 strategic and around 250 front-line operations, and by the servicemen's martial feats during the war, wrote one of the most striking and glorious pages of their heroic annals. One could name thousands upon thousands of Soviet heroes who performed feats in the name of the motherland and in the name of victory over the enemy. The immortal feat of infantrymen Pankratov and Matrosov was repeated more than 300 times during the war years, and the feat of airman Captain Gastello more than 500 times. Together with the other armed forces, Soviet airmen made a big contribution to the cause of the great victory. In bitter air battles, our fatherland's glorious falcons routed the much-vaunted German Air Force, destroying 57,000 enemy aircraft and thereby ensuring freedom of action for the Red Army.

The CPSU Central Committee decision on the 40th anniversary of the Soviet people's victory in the great fatherland war, 1941-45, points out that the past decades have shown even more clearly and fully the worldwide historic significance of the Soviet people's victory in the great fatherland war. In defending the most advanced social system, the socialist fatherland, our hero people and their valorous army and navy taught a severe lesson to the champions of military ventures and to aspirants to world domination, and clearly demonstrated the hopelessness of their aggressive intrigues.

Our country is an invariable advocate of peace. It is difficult even to enumerate all the Soviet Government's peace-loving initiatives, or to describe even briefly its titanic activity in developing the stategy of the peace offensive, of preventing war, of lowering the level of military confrontation, and of working out a program for the complete elimination of mass destruction weapons. It is to the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries that Europe owes the fact that it has been living in conditions of peace for more then 40 years now. However, through the fault of the reactionary forces of imperialism, and above all of the United States, the arms race goes on and a real threat of the outbreak of a nuclear war persists. The Washington administration's decision to stop adhering to the SALT II treaty concluded with the Soviet Union in 1979 sweeps away the final barrier to an unlimited build up of nuclear potential.

Through the efforts of the military-industrial complex, the United States is commencing the implementation of the SDI program, the transfer of the arms race into space. Under such circumstances, our Communist Party and Soviet state, while not weakening their efforts in the peace struggle, are displaying constant concern for the reinforcement of the country's defense capability and are making increasing demands of the army and navy's combat readiness.

While developing the armed forces as a whole, the party is constantly concerned with the development of their component types and ranks [ryady] of troops.

This ensures the further growth of the armed forces' combat potential and enhances their role as a reliable guarantor of the Soviet people's peaceful labor and a faithful guardian of the gains of socialism.

The air force has also risen to a qualitatively new level. The foundations of the air force now consist of missile-carrying aircraft equipped with the very latest weapons, advanced navigational apparatus and means of detecting the enemy and controlling fire. The present generation of Soviet airmen is worthily continuing the combat glory of the aviation ace period of the great fatherland war. The best among them have been awarded with the noble title of Hero of the Soviet Union for courage and valor in performing their military and international duty. The socialist competition, which is widely spread in the military collectives under the slogan "Let Us Fulfill the Decisions of the 27th CPSU Congress, Let Us Herald the 70th Anniversary of the GOSR with Selfless Martial Labor" is helping to raise military skill. In each unit and each subunit there are many servicemen whose martial labor inspires admiration. Among them one can justly mention the airmen of the Guards Bomber Air Regiment under the command of Guards Colonel (Lapkovskiy).

The party and the Soviet people note with satisfaction that the cause of defending socialism is in reliable hands. Our servicemen as a whole carry out their army service well and master their martial art with persistence. When the fatherland demands their internationalist duty, as for example in the DRA, they perform feats worthy of the military glory of their fathers and grandfathers.

Today we are celebrating the 69th anniversary of the Soviet Army and Navy under the impact of the materials of the January 1987 CPSU plenum, the decisions of which are ardently approved by all armed forces personnel. Active work is unfolding in the army and navy to implement these decisions and serious steps are being taken to tackle and deepen the ongoing restructuring. Businesslike criticism, self-criticism, and openness are being developed and important corrections are being made to the structure and style of activity of military cadres, to the training and education of the troops and to the organization of military labor.

The Soviet people can be confident that, under the leadership of the Communist Party and on the basis of its decisions, the Soviet Armed Forces will worthily perform their duty to defend the gains of socialism and peace.

General Yazov Speaks

LD231236 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0730 GMT 23 Feb 87

[Address by Army General Dimitriy Timofeyevich Yazov, USSR deputy minister of defense; date and place not given -- live or recorded]

[Text] Dear Comrades: The Soviet Armed Forces are the creation of the Great October Socialist Revolution, the creation of Lenin. The feats performed by our soldiers, sailors, and commanders during the civil and Great Patriotic Wars are common knowledge. They are preserved and will be preserved eternally in the people's grateful memory. Today we once again pay a tribute of the most profound respect to the heroes who fell and honor all Army and Navy veterans.

I would like to recollect that hardly had the last salvoes of the war died down when the imperialists of the United States, Britain, and other countries again took up a policy of militarization, unleashed the cold war and the arms race, unfolded a network of military bases, and began creating aggressive military blocs. Despite the difficulties of the postwar restoration of the economy, the Soviet people were forced to build their own nuclear weapons and the effective means of delivering them to the target, and thus putting an end to imperialism's nuclear blackmail. Our motherland and its Warsaw Pact allies cannot fail to take into account the fact that reactionary imperialistic circles, above all the United States, intend to continue pursuing a course of dangerous military adventures, of expanding their military perparations, and of pushing the pace of a large-scale arms race. Under such circumstances, the CPSU and the Soviet state, waging a consistent and persistent struggle for peace and a reduction in tension and curbing the arms race, constantly keep issues relating to the reliable security of the Soviet Union, its allies, and friends at the center of attention. Such unity, love for peace and readiness to give a resolute rebuff to aggression were bequeathed to us by the great Lenin, and are the foundation of our policy and of our military doctrine. Thanks to the concern shown by the party and the people, successes in developing the economy, science and technology, the Soviet Armed Forces have all they need for the reliable defense of our socialist homeland. All branches of the Soviet Armed Forces, strategic rocket troops, land forces, antiaircraft defense troops, the Air Force and the Navy are equipped with the most modern weapons and combat equipment. At the same time, their organizational structure is being persistently improved, military science and military skill are developing as are the theory and practice of training troops. All this is accompanied by a further increase in the combat might of the Army and Navy.

The increased combat might of the Soviet Armed Forces is underpinned by the excellent quality of military cadres, who are selflessly devoted to the party and the people, and who possess a high level of professional skill, general, and military-technical knowledge. For 69 years the Soviet Armed Forces have been reliably standing guard over the security of the socialist fatherland. They have trodden a legendary and heroic path, and they have covered their combat banner in immortal glory in battles for the Soviet homeland. Today's generation of Army and Navy servicemen have something to defend and something with which to defend it, and have a responsible and humane objective: to be the guardian of the Soviet people's peaceful labor, a reliable compass, a victorious banner of Marxism-Leninism, the tested and tempered helmsman of the CPSU.

I heartily congratulate you, dear comrades, on the great nationwide celebration, the 69th anniversary of the Soviet Army and Navy.

Govorov Comments on DRA

LD232200 Moscow World Service in English 1710 GMT 23 Feb 87

[Interview with General Vladimir Govorov, deputy defense minister. Questions by unidentified announcer in English. Govorov answers in Russian fading into English translation; date and place of interview not given -- recorded]

[Text] [Announcer] The traditional day of the Soviet Army and Navy is marked on 23d February. On that day 69 years ago our newly formed army won its first victory in repelling foreign invading troops. Since then the 23d February is annually marked as a holiday of Soviet Armed Forces. In connection with the date we have interviewed Deputy Defense Minister General Vladimir Govorov. The first questions is: What is the essence of the Soviet military doctrine?

[Govorov] Today the system of views of the future and nature of a probable war accepted in this country remains the same as before. For 7 decades the idea of defending the Soviet people and the peoples of the socialist countries is at the core of our military doctrine. Throughout its history the Soviet army has never attacked anyone, neither does it intend to attack anyone now. The USSR has never had any territorial claims to any other country. If limited Soviet army contingents are forced to stay temporarily on foreign territories, like in the case of Afghanistan, this is done at the request of their governments in order to help them defend themselves from foreign enemies.

[Announcer] Our listeners also want to know when all Soviet troops will be withdrawn from Afghanistan.

[Govorov] Actually the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan has started. At the end of 1986, 6 regiments were returned. We've agreed with the Afghan Government on a schedule of troop withdrawal. If a political settlement involving Afghanistan is reached and outside armed interference in its affairs is stopped there will be no need for Soviet troops to remain there. However, all those who encourage and finance the undeclared war against Afghanistan should know that if the intervention continues the Soviet Union will not leave its neighbor in distress alone.

[Announcer] Vladimir Govorov was also asked what he thinks about the America Strategic Defense Initiative Program.

[Govorov] I consider that it is impossible to build a space shield impenetrable for intercontinental ballistic missiles or other modern types of weapons. No matter what share of attack weapons breaks through the defense systems, it will do irreparable damage to any country. These will be losses of historical and cultural values, material resources, and tremendous human losses. We in the Soviet Union believe that strategic stability must be guaranteed. As the Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev has said at the recent international forum in Moscow, the competition of a shield and sword, which is dangerous in our nuclear age, must be stopped.

General Lushev Writes

PM231423 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 23 Feb 87 Morning Edition p 2

[Article by Hero of the Soviet Union Army General P. Lushev, USSR first deputy defense minister, under rubric "23 February Is Soviet Army and Navy Day": "The Test of Time"]

[Text] Our Armed Forces' holiday is a tribute of love to the heroic past of the Army and Navy and to those who defended the revolution's gains and the motherland's honor, freedom, and independence. It is also in memory of those who died in battle and a time of kind feelings toward their sons and grandsons serving today -- a period of tension because of imperialism's increasing aggressiveness.

The CPSU Central Committee January (1987) Plenum made a high appraisal of the Armed Forces' activity and voiced confidence that under the present conditions Communists and all Army and Navy cadres will act with the greatest responsibility and enhance and improve the skill and combat readiness of all branches and categories of troops.

The Soviet people and our party believe in their Armed Forces, do everything to strengthen them, and rightly consider that no events can take them unawares.

I want to stress that the establishment of military-strategic parity between the USSR and the United States and between the Warsaw Pact and NATO is a historic achievement of socialism, has strengthened the positions of our state and its allies, and also the positions of all progressive forces, and has frustrated bellicose imperialism's plans for victory in a nuclear world war. The party regards the maintenance of this balance as a serious factor in ensuring peace and international security.

The Soviet Armed Forces are an integral part of our society. Their structure, tasks, sociopolitical makeup, and material and technical base reflect the great changes taking place in our country. This is not the result of any one-sided "militarist" development, as our enemies charge -- we are simply forced to take effective defensive measures. Let us recall what is stated in the CPSU Program: "Our society does not need an army from the viewpoint of internal conditions..." Yes, it is now only the external threat that determines the actual existence of our Armed Forces and their combat potential. The Soviet people have no intention of waiving their security. No one should regard our struggle for peace as weakness or use it as grounds for blackmail or the extortion of one-sided concessions.

The nationwide nature of the Army and Navy rules out the possibility of military strength being used in the selfish interests of any class or social group. One of the main sociopolitical trends in the development of the Soviet Armed Forces is the increasingly full assertion of the principles of socialist internationalism in the life of our multinational military collectives. Relations between soldiers of more than 100 nations and nationalities are strenghtened by their fraternal friendship, sense of national pride and patriotism, and personal responsibility for the defense of their country. CPSU nationalities policy in the Armed Forces creates favorable conditions for implementing the principles of internationalism in military building. Increased attention has been paid to the military vocational guidance of young people of different USSR nationalities, and the officer corps is being expanded with representatives of all of our country's nations and nationalities.

At the same time, the demands of the CPSU Central Committee January (1987) Plenum are also relevant to the Armed Forces in everything concerning the development of national relations. Particular sensitivity and circumspection and party principledness must be shown in this respect and friendship between servicemen from all parts of the country must be strengthened.

Why are our soldiers so close to the people? In present conditions the educational role of the Soviet Armed Forces is growing. The army school of life is a unique experience. It promotes the development young people's social activeness and the all-around, harmonious development of the individual, and also accustoms people to work and to defend socialist ideals and values.

Officers are the direct organizers of communist education and military training. Success in their difficult work is ensured by profound ideological conviction, a wealth of knowledge, high political, moral, and pedagogical standards, closeness to people, awareness of their subordinates' attitudes, opinions, and needs, and a high degree of professionalism, competence, and intelligence. The whole substance of our life, the nature of military work, its intellectual richness, and maximum closeness to combat conditions must mold in servicemen a constant readiness to fulfill their military duty to defend the Soviet motherland.

The international mission of the limited contingent of Soviet troops which is assisting in the struggle against counterrevolutionary forces and imperialist agents will remain forever in the annals of combat fraternity between the peoples of the Soviet Union and the DRA.

Restructuring in the Army and Navy means decisively getting rid of bureaucratic rust in living work and fighting arrogance and indifference to people, complacency, and lack of concern.

The demands made on troop control are growing immeasurably. Victory in contemporary warfare largely depends on the ability to competently assess and predict the main trends in the development of the military-political situation, draw up realistic plans and schemes, energetically maneuver forces and equipment, and constantly study the probable enemy, the principles and methods of conducting combat operations that he has adopted, his strong points and weak points, and his ability to act quickly. New thinking is essential in the leadership and control of troops, and this is also one of restructuring's requirements.

Measures are being taken in the units and on the ships to overcome oversimplification and eradicate formalism in the organization of combat training. The principle "Teach troops what they need to know in war" is being more persistently and consistently put into practice. The theory and practice of military building is being reviewed and reinterpreted. In order to activate the human factor in military work, the same qualities needed by us all in everyday life are being cultivated in military cadres -- an innovatory sense, efficiency, initiative, responsibility, and an uncompromising attitude to shortcomings. In this connection the main criterion of the activity of every officer is the specific result, that is, a high level of combat readiness in every formation, unit, subunit, and serviceman.

It is impossible to imagine the Armed Forces without advanced military science. Its contribution to enhancing the combat might of the Army and Navy is indisputable. However, the development of military theory and practice constantly demands conclusions and generalizations which not only follow from current requirements but are also ahead of them. Everything obsolete, inert, and unwarranted in the changed conditions can be overcome only on the basis of restructuring.

Without taking constant account of the changing situation, it would be hard to oppose the persistent attempts by the United States and the NATO countries to tip the present balance of forces in their own favor by creating new types of nuclear and conventional weapons and space-based strike systems and thereby gain superiority and create a qualitatively new material base for war. The Soviet Union and Warsaw Pact states do not aspire to military superiority, but nor will they allow others to gain superiority over them. The United States and NATO countries, however, cling to the old dogmas of military superiority and console themselves with hopes of creating within the Star Wars framework some kind of "ultimate weapon" which must, according to Washington strategists, guarantee a first nuclear strike and prevent retaliation in a nuclear war. These are futile hopes on the part of lovers of military adventures! To unleash a war today using mass destruction weapons would mean self-annihilation and the elimination of life on earth.

It has now become as clear as day to everyone, Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev said, that the concept of war as a means of attaining political aims has become obsolete. In the nuclear age these obsolete dogmas feed policies which could lead to a universal conflagration.

Yes, life on earth and our civilization can only be saved by totally eliminating nuclear weapons.

Consequently, in these conditions the way to security lies in lowering the level of military confrontation and reducing and ultimately totally eliminating nuclear and other types of mass destruction weapons. All other weapons must be reduced to a minimum of reasonable sufficiency. However, going against common sense, the United States continues to gear itself to preparing for global and local nuclear wars and gambles on gaining military superiority and subordinating its policy to the cult of force. Consequently, while defending the cause of peace, the CPSU and the Soviet Government will, as indicated at the 27th CPSU Congress, devote unremitting attention to strengthening the USSR's defense might and increasing our country's security and the Armed Forces' readiness to defeat any aggressor.

Our people can be sure that the present generation of defenders of the Soviet motherland is a worthy heir to and continuer of the combat traditions of the heroic generation which on the battlefields of the last war defended their country's honor and independence, liberated many European and Asian peoples from the invaders, and defeated the aggressor. The Leninist Party has armed Soviet servicemen with the Marxist-Leninist teaching, which provides an inexhaustible source of ideological conviction, political maturity, combat activeness, and class hatred for the aggressor. There is no force in the world which could shake their faith in the triumph of communism and reason.